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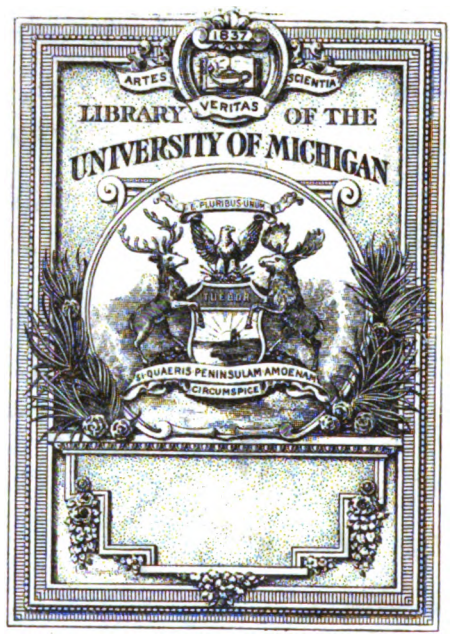

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CALENDARS.

Instructions to Editors.

The Master of the Rolls desires to call the attention of the Editors of Calendars to the following considerations, with a view to secure uniformity of plan in the important works on which they are engaged :—

He is anxious to extend, as far as is consistent with proper economy and despatch, the utility of the Calendars of State Papers now publishing under his control: 1st. As the most efficient means of making the national archives accessible to all who are interested in historical inquiries; 2nd. As the best justification of the liberality and munificence of the Government in throwing open these papers to the public, and providing proper catalogues of their contents at the national expense.

The greater number of the readers who will consult and value these works can have little or no opportunity of visiting the Public Record Office, in which these papers are deposited. The means for consulting the originals must necessarily be limited when readers live at a distance from the metropolis; still more if they are residents of Scotland, Ireland, distant colonies, or foreign states. Even when such an opportunity does exist, the difficulty of mastering the original hands in which these papers are written will deter many readers from consulting them. Above all, their great variety and number must present formidable obstacles to literary inquirers, however able, sanguine, and energetic, when the information contained in them is not made accessible by satisfactory Calendars.

The Master of the Rolls considers that, without superseding the necessity of consulting the originals, every Editor ought to frame his Calendar in such a manner that it shall present, in as condensed a form as possible, a correct index of the contents of the papers described in it. He considers that the entries should be so minute as to enable the reader to discover not only the general contents of the originals, but also what *they do not* contain. If the information be not sufficiently precise, if facts and names be omitted or concealed under a vague and general description, the reader will be often misled, he will assume that where the abstracts are silent as to information to be found in the documents, such information does not exist; or he will have to examine every original in detail, and thus one great purpose will have been lost for which these Calendars have been compiled.

A. 3657. Wt. 17294.

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As the documents are various, the Master of the Rolls considers that they will demand a corresponding mode of treatment. The following rules are to be observed :—

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2nd. Letters and documents referring to one subject only should be catalogued as briefly as is consistent with correctness. But when they contain miscellaneous news, such a description should be given as will enable a reader to form an adequate notion of the variety of their contents.

3rd. Wherever a letter or paper is especially difficult to decipher, or the allusions more than ordinarily obscure, it will be advisable for the Editor to adhere, as closely as is consistent with brevity, to the text of the document. He is to do the same when it contains secret or very rare information.

4th. Where the Editor has deciphered letters in cipher, the decipher may be printed at full length. But when a contemporary or authorised decipher exists it will be sufficient to treat the cipher as an ordinary document.

5th. Striking peculiarities of expression, proverbs, manners, &c., are to be noticed.

6th. Original dates are to be given at the close of each entry, that the reader may know the exact evidence by which the marginal dates are determined.

7th. Where letters are endorsed by the receivers and the date of their delivery specified, these endorsements are to be recorded.

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9th. The language of every document is to be specified. If, however, the greater part of the collection be in English, it will be sufficient to denote those only which are in a different tongue.

10th. Where documents have been printed, a reference should be given to the publication.

11th. Each series is to be chronological.

12th. The Prefaces of Editors, in explanation of documents in the volume, are not to exceed fifty pages, unless the written permission of the Master of the Rolls to the contrary be obtained.

*** Editors employed in foreign archives are to transcribe at full length important and secret papers.

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CALENDAR

OF

STATE PAPERS AND MANUSCRIPTS,

RELATING TO ENGLISH AFFAIRS,

EXISTING IN THE ARCHIVES AND COLLECTIONS OF

VENICE,

AND IN OTHER LIBRARIES OF

NORTHERN ITALY.

VOL. XII.

1610—1613.

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HORATIO F. BROWN.

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PREFACE.

THE documents calendared in this volume cover the three years from July, 1610, to June, 1613. Their contents fall into two groups, Domestic and Foreign.

I.

The Domestic group is chiefly occupied with Finance, the Royal Matches, James and the Catholics, and Piracy.

Salisbury had before him the task of mending the King's finances. By means of impositions, exaction of Crown debts, aids, etc., he had succeeded in raising the royal income, derived from non-Parliamentary sources, from £315,000 to £460,000 a year, and had reduced the debt from £1,000,000 to £300,000. But the extravagance of the King rendered Salisbury's efforts abortive. The expenditure continued to rise, and it became clear that nothing short of £600,000 a year would suffice. Salisbury's problem was how to induce Parliament to grant such revenue and to make it "firm and stable." The negotiations assumed the nature of a bargain. The King, through the Treasurer, asked for a "supply" of £600,000 and a permanent support of £200,000 a year, which would bring the annual income up to £660,000. In return the Commons asked for the abolition of certain feudal rights. This formed the basis of "the great Contract." The haggling which followed merely served to exasperate both parties; James refused as inadequate the sum offered by the Commons, while they, in the consideration of the grievances for which they required redress, came to touch upon what he held to be his prerogative. Parliament was prorogued in July with the question unsettled, though the Commons had indicated the length they were disposed to go. When the House met again in October the

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King's mood had changed; his patience was exhausted; he saw that he would not gain much by any bargain he could make with the Commons, and he had already begun to contemplate other methods for raising money. Parliament was dissolved in February, 1611. The failure of "the great Contract" was a serious blow to Salisbury, and is said to have hastened his death. The proceedings as they struck the Venetian Ambassador, Marc' Antonio Correr, are noted and commented on in Nos. 111, 115, 125, 132, 151.

Among the expedients now adopted for raising money was the creation of the order of Baronets (No. 227). "The title will descend to the eldest son, and Baronets will have precedence over all other knights except those of the Garter and some who are knighted on the field in recognition of noble deeds. Baronets must prove nobility for three generations and have an income of four thousand ducats a year, or two thirds of that sum and expectation of inheriting the other third on the extinction of one life. This last condition causes many to withdraw their petition so as not to be obliged to declare their means, which might increase their burdens in the payment of subsidies." Correr remarks that applications came in very slowly, only forty names were down on the list in May, 1611. But by April, 1612 (No. 499), two hundred had applied for the honour and had put in a complaint that the sons of Barons took precedence over them. "Three whole days were consumed in the endeavour to satisfy them, as the point is important; for the future all sons of Baronets are to be considered Knights. . . . . Barons' sons keep their precedence."

The question of the currency, which had exercised the statesmen of the previous reign,* also claimed the attention of Salisbury (No. 373), Nov. 25, 1611. "The systematization of the coin will certainly take place, and gold will be placed on a par with French gold, which will be most convenient and will put an end to serious disorders; for eleven pounds in

* *See* Cunningham, *Growth of English Industry and Commerce*, Cambridge, 1908, 1. 127, *et. seqq.*

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France and Flanders are only worth ten here, and therefore gold leaves the country and there is nothing but silver in circulation. Silver will be rated at its true proportion to gold and good results are expected" (No. 387). "The value of gold has been raised ten per cent., and the export of silver forbidden under severe penalties." The principle which underlay this action is expressed in Miles' "Customers' Alphabet" thus, "The way to retayne Gold and Silver within a Kingdome and draw more into it, is to hold a perfect and steady standard at home and call all Forraine coynes currant, one penny in an ounce of Silver, and xij pence in gold above their owne."*

Salisbury did not live to put the finances of the country on a sound basis. In spite of his diligence and abnegation in surrendering his profits from Wardship the King's extravagance outstripped his economies. He himself declared "that he was a hundred thousand pounds poorer than when he entered the Treasury" (No. 548). Foscarini, the Venetian Ambassador, reporting his death, says that the Lord Treasurer had always proved a warm friend to Venice and her Envoys.

As regards the complicated negotiations for the marriages of Prince Henry and the Princess Elizabeth, Salisbury's personal leanings are not clearly defined. He followed rather than led the King; but on the whole he disliked a Spanish match for the Prince, and favoured a Protestant match for the Princess. The Prince had received the Garter, been created Prince of Wales, and had established his own household. The question of his early marriage now came to the front. The rumour of the double Franco-Spanish matches, which the Queen Regent and Villeroy had succeeded in concluding, though vigorously denied both by Villeroy and the Spanish Ambassador in England, Don Alonzo de Velasco, had roused the King's alarm at the possible union of the great Catholic Powers. Velasco, in conversation with the King and Salisbury, hinted at the possibility of a Spanish match for the Prince. A

* *See* Cunningham op. cit. 141.

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similar proposal had already reached England from the Duke of Savoy whose Minister, di Ruffia, Count of Cartignana, had arrived in London to ask the hand of the Princess for the Prince of Piedmont, and to suggest the Infanta Maria as a wife for the Prince. He had instructions to keep the two proposals together, and on being informed that the match for the Prince could not be considered he returned to Turin for further orders. In this interval de Velasco put forward his suggestion, on distinct instructions, he averred, from Lerma and the King of Spain. The King and Queen were both delighted at the idea, whatever Salisbury may have thought of it, and Digby, the English Ambassador in Spain, was ordered to make a formal demand for the Infanta's hand. But Digby found that Philip put him off with polite phrases (No. 334), and when he came to interview Lerma the Minister said that "everything was satisfactory; it only remained to enquire which Infanta the Ambassador meant." Digby said "the eldest," whereupon Lerma drew back and said that the eldest Infanta was already destined for the King of France. Digby sent a messenger express to London and the King was furious at finding he had been duped. Salisbury feigned a like indignation. When de Velasco endeavoured to pacify him, and urged that the second Infanta was free to wed the Prince, he replied that the Prince could find roses elsewhere and need not trouble about this Spanish olive; if they still desired to discuss a match they might talk of "second with second," meaning the Duke of York, if they liked. De Velasco endeavoured to excuse himself to the King by declaring that both his Master and Lerma had given him positive instructions to negotiate for the match, that he had letters in their own hand to prove this, that the eldest Infanta was always intended. James refused to be pacified, and de Velasco announced that he would ask for his recall, he could no longer serve employers who repudiated their written instructions; meantime he hired a house some way out of London in order to avoid the hostility of the mob.

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When it was known in diplomatic circles that the Spanish match was off, the French Envoy tentatively suggested a daughter of France; Salisbury sounded Ottaviano Lotti as to the possibility of a Tuscan match with a large dower, the Grand Duke's wealth being notorious; and presently Cartignana returned from Savoy with instructions to ask for the Princess' hand for the Prince of Piedmont, dropping the proposals for a match with the Prince of Wales; but he soon found that the King had resolved to give the Princess to the Elector Palatine, and he returned, *re infecta*, to his Court, where his reception was chilly. The King did not wish to offend Savoy, and determined to send a complimentary Embassy with a handsome present to Turin. Lord Hay was designated, but finally Sir Henry Wotton was despatched. He took with him a large and distinguished suite, "ten light ambling geldings" (No. 506), and a richly jewelled sword, which "by good chance he kept better than his own, which was stolen out of his chamber the night before he went away, with full appearance, as it would seem, that it was the right one" (No. 472). The Duke still believed in the possibility of an English match, and he overwhelmed Wotton with attentions to such an extent that the Ambassador, who had caught a feverish chill crossing the Cenis, actually complained of the intolerable burden (No. 522). It seems that between Wotton and the Duke there was a renewal of the proposal to marry the Princess Maria to the Prince of Wales, for on Wotton's return to England the Savoy match entered on an active phase. The Duke sent as his agents, first Pergamo (No. 587), then the clever Banker Gabaleone (No. 646), who was soon followed by a fully accredited Ambassador, the Marchese Villa; William Parkhurst, one of Wotton's Secretaries, remained on in Turin.

Meantime the step taken by Salisbury in approaching the Florentine envoy, Lotti, was beginning to bear fruit. The Grand Duke was extremely anxious to conclude a match between his sister and the Prince of Wales and would have considered the money which James was likely to demand as well spent. The alliance would place him above the Duke

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of Savoy in prestige and would be an important step towards securing the title of King (No. 447). The scheme had the support of Salisbury and Sir Thomas Challoner, the Prince's Chamberlain, and was handled by General Cecil, Lord Salisbury's nephew. As early as February, 1612 (No. 442), the Venetian ambassador reports the arrival of couriers from Tuscany with instructions to pave the way for the match by a lavish use of gold. The Queen was opposed to the alliance, and spoke contemptuously of the Grand Duke's envoy, whom she called "a man" (No. 462). But the King was tempted by the prospect of a large dower, his endeavours being directed to fixing the sum as high as possible. To that end he played the Savoyard proposal against the Tuscan. The question now seemed to resolve itself into a struggle between Tuscany and Savoy, each attempting to outbid the other. Whether either match was seriously intended by the English Court is doubtful. In both cases negotiations turned on the question of dower and religion. James professed liberal views; he said he was willing to allow his son's wife free exercise of her religion in her private apartments; but popular feeling as expressed in the pulpits was hostile to a Catholic match. The Pope entered vigorous protests both at Turin and at Florence against the conclusion of any alliance with England until the question of religion had been settled to his satisfaction. Savoy does not seem to have paid much heed, and in all probability had the other points been arranged he would have gone on with the match in spite of the Pope. The Grand Duke, on the other hand, showed a great desire to conciliate the Holy See. He sent Don Giovanni de' Medici to Rome with instructions to secure the Papal assent (No. 549). When the subject was broached the Pope raised objections, and referred the question to a committee of Cardinals. Don Giovanni endeavoured to force his hand by declaring that negotiations were so far advanced that the Grand Duke could not now retire, whereupon the Pope flew into a rage and averred that he neither could nor would consent to the match. The truth is that Spanish influence was at work in Rome to prevent

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either the Tuscan or the Savoyard match; and Philip was on the point of despatching Don Pedro de Zuñiga to England with that object, among others, in his commission. The delay in Rome had its reflex in London. As the prospects of the Tuscan match waned Savoy redoubled its efforts; the offers for the dower rose till they were rumoured to reach a million (No. 674). French proposals, too, began to take a more active character. During these negotiations the person chiefly concerned, Prince Henry himself, took little part in the discussion. He feared to irritate his father, between whom and himself the relations were slightly strained, as the following episode proves. The Prince despised his father's fanatical devotion to the chase; one day, at Royston, the King chid him for his lack of interest and the Prince resented it, whereupon the King rode at him with his whip. The Prince put spurs to his horse and galloped off, followed by the larger part of the company. By the evening the King had recovered his temper, and when the Prince begged pardon he merely said laughing "Well, you are no sportsman" (No. 217). But though the Prince thought it prudent to remain in the background while his marriage was being discussed, his conduct during the last days of his life leads us to suppose that he would have intervened decisively at the final decision. When the Tuscan match was mooted he showed aversion. "If the Grand Duke was not good enough for the Princess Elizabeth the Grand Duke's sister was not good enough for him." He even talked vaguely of marrying an Englishwoman. The Savoy match on the other hand, met with his apparent approval at first. He thought the blood sufficiently noble and liked the adventurous, restless spirit of the Duke, though he disliked the idea of a Catholic spouse and used to declare that "two religions should never lie in his bed," and this may have been the real reason for the opposition which, under the influence of Count Maurice, he displayed towards the end when the negotiations were on the point of being concluded. He was to have attended the Council which was summoned to consider the final answer to

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Gabaleone, the Savoyard Envoy, and he had drawn up a number of reasons against the match. Possibly the chief reason was that he thought a Catholic marriage would hamper the design he nourished for making himself the head of the Protestant Anti-Austrian party in Europe. However that may be, the Prince never presented his objections. He was stricken by a fever, which proved to be typhoid, and died in November, 1612. There was a suspicion of poison, and dark rumours as to the King's complicity were flying about France and Savoy, but the record of the malady leaves no doubt as to its nature. Foscarini sums up the Prince's character and the effects of his death thus: "Many predictions centred round his person, and he seemed marked out for great deeds. His whole talk was of arms and war. His authority was great and he was obeyed and lauded by the military party. He had begun to put the Navy in order. He was hostile to Spain and had pretensions in France. He would not suffer the Pope to be ill spoken of, and in his familiar conversation he declared that he admired him as a Prince. His designs were vast; his temper grave. He had few equals in the handling of arms, be it on horse or on foot. He was so secret that he kept everything entirely to himself. He listened to all, but conferred with none. With a high conception of himself he reached all his decisions alone. He desired all his correspondence to be burned to save from danger those whom death prevented him from rewarding. It is certain that he was in touch with Prince Maurice, whom he esteemed above all others. In fine, all the hopes of these kingdoms were built on his high qualities" (Nos. 692, 698).

The marriage of the Princess Elizabeth proved a matter less complicated than that of the Prince, her brother. Savoy was first in the field here. But Cartignana soon found that the King was averse. On the outburst of indignation which followed the Spanish answer to the demand for the Infanta's hand, Philip became alarmed both by the reports as to the English temper furnished by de Velasco from London, and by Digby's strong language at Madrid. He resolved to conciliate

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James, if possible, and began by making concessions in favour of English merchants in Spain. He also caused the idea to be put about that on the expiry of mourning for the Queen of Spain he himself would ask for Princess Elizabeth's hand. Don Pedro de Zuñiga was sent to England with instructions to smooth away the irritation, to negotiate about the colony of Virginia and the North-West passage, and if the occasion offered, to introduce the proposal for a royal match. The King was still sore from his rebuff and either hoped that proposals from the King of Spain would restore his prestige or else would give him an opportunity of returning the affront in kind. In any case he wished the proposal to be made. But when Zuñiga reached the Court at Theobalds he found the atmosphere so chilly that he confined himself to merely formal explanations as to the Franco-Spanish matches and the action of de Velasco. The King was disappointed and returned a very brief answer in a few cold words (No. 594); and Zuñiga, after saying that he desired to stay on for a few weeks, took his leave and returned to London, where an awkward accident befel him, for "as he was riding in his carosse with his six mules over Holborn Bridge, with his great *lethagador* about his neck and coming upon his elbow, at the side of the carosse comes a fellow by him on horseback and snatches the Ambassador's hat off his head, which had a rich jewel in it, and rides away with it up the street as fast as he could, the people going on and laughing at it."

But James had really made up his mind to give his daughter to the Palatine, on whose behalf the Huguenot Duke of Bouillon had been negotiating with such effect (No. 539) that by May, 1612, it was virtually settled. The Venetian Ambassador was present both at the reception of the Palatine and at the marriage, which, though postponed on account of the Prince's death, was celebrated with great pomp in February, 1613.

Of James' relations with the Catholics we hear a good deal in the Venetian despatches. The Jesuits were apparently

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working for the establishment of an English hierarchy (No. 193); "the priests in the kingdom are negotiating with a view to the appointment of four or five bishops by the Pope." They had drawn up separately various memorials on the point and therein they named the persons they held to be most fitted for the office; they argued that should any of these be put to death it would rouse a spirit of veneration and devotion among English Catholics. The Jesuits on other occasions had opposed the scheme, but the success of the petition was now all the more eagerly desired in that the fathers had in their hands the whole management of Catholic affairs in the kingdom and by their rules were themselves debarred from accepting the episcopal dignity. James took occasion to explain to Foscarini his attitude towards the Church and especially towards the Jesuits (No. 453). His Majesty said that he was doing all that in him lay to imitate the primitive Church, and he complained of being called a heretic. He declared that Bellarmin's opinions had changed after he became Cardinal. As to the Jesuits, "Let it be said that the Pope does not approve of certain opinions which are absolutely and palpably contrary to the truth, yet books are published which contain these opinions, and I hold it all one whether a person says a thing or allows it to be said. The Jesuits are gradually building up a religion according to their own desires, as anyone may see who will compare the teaching of the Sorbonne with the teaching of the Company. I know not what grace or virtue they have above their fellow faithful that they should appropriate the name they do, calling themselves 'the Company of Jesu,' as if by some privilege they were superior to other bodies who, as is fitting, take such modest names as 'Servites,' 'Minorites,' and so on." He then declared that in his controversy with Vorstius he was defending the faith that is called Roman quite as much as any other creed of Christains, and Foscarini assured him that "in truth he could not have spoken in more Catholic terms nor with greater piety." The dread of the Jesuits and of Catholic plots was ever present to the King's mind. Both Salisbury

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and Abbot frequently received warnings to be on their guard, and the Catholic Embassies, especially the Spanish, caused constant anxiety as offering asylum to the evilly disposed. Rigorous measures were adopted and some executions took place (No. 151). "The prisons are full of Catholics and priests. On Monday a Benedictine friar and a secular priest were put to death; the first because he had been five times banished, and last year was one of those who were handed over to the French Ambassador and by him taken out of the kingdom; the other because, when being examined by the Bishop of London, he pressed him with close arguments and vigorous demonstrations that principles adopted against his own judgment were worthless. They might have saved themselves by taking the oath, but both persistently refused. They were frequently visited in prison and were accompanied to execution by a crowd of about three thousand persons, among whom were many of the leading ladies and gentlemen. Some of the mob insisted on drawing the cart; many fell on their knees to receive their blessing and to kiss their feet; nor was anyone hindered in such demonstrations, except that after the execution those who wished to collect the blood were driven back. In his dying speech the friar urged them to pray for the King, nor did he lack hearty applause from the very Protestants. Diligence that the corpses should not be disturbed nor carried off was used in vain, even though the bodies were placed on purpose under the bodies of sixteen thieves." At Rome the Pope was advised by some of his Cardinals (No. 160) that the only way to stop the persecution was to cease to annoy the King and to abandon the policy of the Jesuits, "which experience has shown to produce the worst results, contrary to all expectation." In view of this dread of conspiracy a request was sent to all Ambassadors not to admit English subjects to the Mass, nor to allow English priests to officiate (No. 4). This was resented by some of the Ambassadors, who replied that they could not shut their doors, the dignity of their Embassy preventing them. The Venetian, however, assured the Government that in his case the doors

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were always closed during Mass. The Spaniard, it seems, took no notice of the request, and the result was (No. 205) that the Embassy was surrounded by officers of the Bishop and the Sheriff of London in order to arrest the English who frequented it. The Ambassador complained, and was then invited to attend in Council. There he declared that it was not his business to expel those who came to his house, upon which Council replied "Very well; if it is not your business we shall arrest them even in your chapel." The Ambassador flared up and the words were eventually withdrawn. But his conduct remained unsatisfactory, and on Christmas Eve, 1611, a certain Sir John Freer was assaulted and arrested when leaving the Spanish Embassy. He was rescued by the Embassy servants (No. 408). The Ambassador sought the King in order to complain, but was referred to Council; he refused to go and insisted on seeing the King, which he did, and in the course of his remarks he attacked the Archbishop of Canterbury, but he got no satisfaction from his Majesty. Council undertook to speak to the various Ambassadors on the topic.

The Flemish Ambassador declared that the question raised a new point and that he must write home for instructions. The French Ambassador seemed inclined to follow the Venetian and to keep the doors closed during Mass; both however resented the interference. The Spanish Ambassador told the Council that he had already written home and could say nothing till the answer arrived; but to avoid offence by his refusal to shut the doors, he was ready, in the meantime, to hire a house out of London. The matter was allowed to drop, and Foscarini reports home that if anything more is heard of it it will be more in the nature of an order to the English to abstain rather than of a request that the Envoys should use vigilance. In discussing the matter with Foscarini the King said that the whole difficulty arose in the first case from the conduct of the Spanish Ambassador, who caused more than one Mass to be said daily and invited attendance by ringing bells. During Don Pedro's first Embassy a scandal had been created by a procession being formed in the Embassy

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Garden. The French Ambassador was more circumspect, still he had annoyed the King by urging that the position of the French differed from that of the rest, for as his Majesty's Ambassador in Paris had sermons preached in his house and freely admitted Protestants, it was only fair that the same liberty should be enjoyed by the French Embassy in London. To which the King replied that there was a fallacy in the argument, for France was a country which professed freedom of conscience, whereas England did not (No. 451). The matter seems to have caused no further difficulty except in the case of the Spanish Embassy, which continued to attract the vigilance and the suspicions of the Archbishop of Canterbury. In August, 1612, Blakman, the Jesuit Confessor of the English College in Rome, was arrested at the Spanish Embassy in the Barbican, and two others, Blount and Pelham, were wanted. The Embassy was kept under surveillance, and in September two more Jesuits were arrested, upon whom were found notes and memoranda showing an extensive correspondence between the Order and the Embassy, and that money was being freely supplied by the King of Spain. The dislike of the Embassy was increased by the fact that a Spanish priest, who had come to England with a view to embracing the Protestant faith, had been decoyed to the house and disappeared; "it is believed that they have either killed him or sent him secretly to Spain or Flanders." The King ordered the Archbishop to demand his surrender, but Foscarini did not know the upshot. The truth is that this suspicion of the Spanish Embassy was closely connected with a threatened Spanish invasion of Ireland, which rendered the position both of the Ambassador Extraordinary, Don Pedro de Zuñiga, and of the Lieger, de Velasco, untenable.

Of the Sherley brothers we get some further notice. Sir Anthony was in the Mediterranean in command of the Sicilian galleys for the King of Spain. He was little better than a pirate, and we find him harrying Venetian shipping in those waters (No. 2). Sir Robert had come to Europe in 1610 on a mission, he said, from Shah Abbas to induce the Kings of

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Spain and of England to attack the Turk, in return for which all Persian exports would be sent to Lisbon and the Atlantic ports instead of through the Mediterranean (No. 163). As far as Spain was concerned he merely got fair words; and in June, 1611, he resolved to leave for England. Foscarini confuses the brothers and talks of "Thomas" Sherley arriving in England on August 5th. The King took offence at a subject of his daring to call himself the Persian Ambassador and made difficulties about receiving him. By the help of Sir Lewis Lewkenor, the Master of the Ceremonies, he was admitted, but in English dress and on condition that he went down on his knees and begged pardon. This was granted and also a small daily allowance. But his negotiations with Salisbury did not prosper. Arms against the Turk were positively refused, while the merchants found that his samples of Persian silk were not good enough (No. 387), and by July he recognised that his mission was a failure and resolved to sail with three ships manned by merchant venturers, "but," says Foscarini, "I am sure they will take to piracy." That was the conviction of the Spanish Envoys in England, who warned their Government (No. 666), and of the English as well, for by February, 1613, Foscarini reports that "the Persian Ambassador has set out to return to his Master. He goes by sea and has only one ship with him, the merchants who trade to those parts being opposed to him, as they found out that the ships that were to accompany him would take to piracy." As he passed down the Channel he was caught in a storm and seemed to be labouring heavily, "we do not know whether he has continued his voyage or been lost."

The whole question of the pirates gave the English Government serious trouble. The pirate strongholds were at Tunis, at Ma'amura, or Mehdia, on the Atlantic coast of Morocco, where they had established themselves after Fajardo (Fasciardo) burned their fleet at Goletta. and in wild indented shores of south-west Ireland. Their leaders were Ward, Tomkins, Bishop, Dauncer, and Eston. At Tunis they had the support of Kara Osman a Turkish adventurer, virtually master of the

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place, and in most other ports under Turkish rule they found no difficulty in securing shelter on surrendering a part of their plunder. In 1609 Don Luis Fajardo and M. de Beaulieu had fired Ward, Bishop and Verney out of the Goletta, with the result that the pirates had taken to Ma'amura and the ports outside the Straits,* where they made themselves as great a nuisance as ever. James was forced to take action, under pressure of claims that were being advanced by Venice, France and Spain. He endeavoured to combine joint operations by England, Holland and the other powers interested in the extirpation of the "sea-sharkers." The Venetian Envoy in France was actively promoting the cause (Nos. 37, 50, 53, 59). Dauncer, one of the leading pirates, had been induced to come into Marseilles and make his peace with the Governor of Provence, the Duke of Guise. The merchants of Marseilles took him into their pay and commissioned him to sail against his old friends the pirates of Tunis and Algiers; and Wotton in one of his last audiences of the Doge (No. 103) told him that an Englishman, who had been captured by the pirates at Tunis and was now serving them under compulsion, was anxious to escape, and placed his knowledge and experience at the disposal of Venice. But Dauncer let himself be decoyed ashore and was put to death by Kara Osman (No. 156), and little seems to have come of Wotton's offer. Ward and his gang continued their depredations. We hear of him in command of six ships challenging an English merchantman in the waters of Zante (No. 108), though he failed to take her. He is reported wrecked off Clarentza (No. 120), but he escaped. By January 11th, 1611, he is reported buccaneering off the Spanish coast. A little later in the same year the examination of John Collever and other captured pirates revealed the fact that the pirate fleet at Ma'amura numbered forty ships with two thousand men. On March 10th, 1612, the Venetian Ambassadors present a complaint to the Grand Vizir stating that Ward had captured the

* *See* Corbet "*England in the Mediterranean,*" Vol. I., p. 18; also *Cal. S.P. Ven.*, 1607-1610, No. 628.

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Venetian ship the "Valnegrina," and had received shelter and support from the Turkish officials in Tunis. The Vizir asked why England, France and Venice did not combine to suppress the pirates, and hinted that if they could not police the sea Crete might meet with the fate of Cyprus (No. 458). Spain was taking some steps in that direction; she had seized El Arish and commissioned Fajardo to protect trade (No. 230). They proposed to block the port of Ma'amura and entrusted the task to Don Pedro di Toledo. He sank eight ships in the fair way. The work was not completely successful (No. 321), but as we shall presently see when we come to the question of Leghorn and Villefranche, the pirates began to leave Ma'amura in considerable numbers. In England James was embarrassed. He himself genuinely detested the lawlessness of piracy; but the buccaneers had powerful supporters He had caught the pirates Bishop and Tomkins. Tomkins was tried and defended himself with great boldness—declaring that he only regretted not having killed every man on board the Venetian ship, the "Balbiana." He was condemned to death. Yet the King suspended execution under pressure of Court influence. James had no ships capable of dealing with the pirates, and Nottingham deprecated the despatch of a small force as it could only end in dishonour. James had granted leave to the Dutch to do police-work even in British harbours and waters. He expected much, but not much came. Finally he made up his mind to try the effect of a pardon; the plan had proved successful in the case of Dauncer; and some of the English pirates, Ward and others, had before now sought the royal clemency. He found a little difficulty in bringing "his honour and his conscience" to accept this line of conduct, which, however, was urged upon him by the majority of Council (No. 271). The pardon was sent by Captain Roger Myddleton to the pirates' headquarters in Ireland; but many of them were out, off the coast of Portugal, in full expectation of making rich prizes (No. 296). When Eston was found he haughtily remarked that he had no intention of obeying the orders of one king when he himself

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was, in a way, a king as well (No. 663). James could neither capture the pirates, nor hang them when he had them, nor induce them to accept a pardon.

The history of Peter Eston as revealed by the despatches from Savoy is one of the most remarkable in the annals of piracy. He was a bold sailor ranging from Ireland to Newfoundland and from the Straits to Genoa. The fleet he commanded varied in number from time to time, but we hear of him with as many as twenty-five ships under his orders. On his return from Newfoundland to the Mediterranean in March, 1613, he was casting about for some place where he might store his plunder. The Duke of Savoy, who had been watching with a jealous eye the development of Leghorn, thought that he might raise Nice and Villefranche to the position of rivals if he could tempt the English pirates, now leaving Ma'amura, to use those ports in place of Leghorn. He accordingly issued a proclamation (No. 781) virtually making Nice and Villefranche free ports and offering asylum and safe conduct to all—no matter what their crimes—who chose to seek them. Eston accordingly sailed into Villefranche with four ships, leaving ten others cruising outside the Straits to pick up booty. On board his four ships he had nine hundred picked soldiers, upwards of four hundred thousand crowns in coin, and goods "to an incredible amount." Eston opened communications directly with the Duke, and, on condition that his property should be free from molestation at the request of any foreign prince, he offered to invest the whole of it in Savoy, and to pay once for all a tithe on the sum total. Eston considered himself safe, and no doubt the Duke, who was in need of money for the large designs he was nourishing, gave him fair words. Anyway the pirate bought a palace in Villefranche and moved into it. He warehoused his property, which was reported to be worth two millions of gold. His other ships began to come in and he gradually proceeded to lay them up; housing their masts, rigging and tackle generally. While this was going on Eston was shot by a harquebus and narrowly escaped death. He declared that

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he was willing to part with his ships to the Duke, as he meant to retire from the buccaneering business. He was expected at Turin as soon as his wound healed. Meantime there were not wanting those who prophesied an evil end for him. He had placed himself at the Duke's mercy, they said, by dismantling his ships, and it was not likely that the Duke would let all that money slip through his fingers; the proclamation of safe-conduct in Villefranche would not cover the pirate as he had sailed into that port before the proclamation was published. Eston, himself, however, had no fears. By March 4th he had reached Turin; and at once began negotiating for the purchase of titles and lands. He immediately acquired the Duke's favour and was always about the Court. The Duke was on the very eve of his famous raid upon the Duchy of Mantua and intended to employ Eston in his siege train. In fact we learn (No. 824) that "the Englishman has covered himself with glory; among other achievements he is so skilful in laying guns that a few shots by him produce more effect than most gunners can produce by many." When James heard all this he made representations to the Marchese Villa, Savoyard Ambassador, and the Duke promised to follow the King's wishes in the matter. This did not look favourable for the pirate; but he managed to parry the stroke by offering to raise and command a squadron on behalf of the Duke in order to threaten the Venetians, with whom he had a rupture over the Mantuan raid. Whether these ships ever sailed we do not gather from our documents, but we know that Venice took it seriously and ordered her commanders in the Adriatic to treat all ships flying the Savoy flag as pirates.

Two shipping cases occur, the case of the "Costley" *sive* "Corsaletta," for which see the preceding volume of this Calendar, and the case of the "Red Camel." The Venetian contention that the case of the "Costley" was closed did not meet with the assent of the English merchants, who continued to importune the King. Wotton declared to the Doge, "I wish the matter were ended, but, so help me God, never a despatch reaches me without express orders from my Master

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to deal closely with your Serenity on the subject, because of the incessant complaints and persistence of the owners, whom his Majesty cannot abandon" (No. 9). Wotton proceeded accordingly to a moderate and lucid recapitulation of the case from the English point of view; he demanded restitution, first, because the seizure was illegal—the captain having conformed to the terms of the convention between England and Venice; second, because the Senate itself had ordered the restitution as an act of grace towards the King. The Doge replied that they had supposed the incident closed, but since the Ambassador re-opened it he must remark, first, as to the seizure the officer in command could not do less than carry out his general orders; as to the fact of whether the ship conformed to the convention there was a clash of evidence, their officers affirming that she did not. As to the ineffectiveness of the resolution of the Senate for the restitution of the ship and cargo "in pristine condition," that was due to the failure of the owners to make immediate use of the order; the second order arrived too late, lapse of time had injured the goods and rendered restitution "in pristine condition" impossible. However the Cabinet and Senate would again take the matter into consideration and give a reply. The reply was read to Wotton on Sept. 4th, 1610, and was a recapitulation of the Venetian contention; it closed with these words, "This is what we have to say to your Lordship in reply to your requests and in termination of the incident. The same answer will be laid before the King by our Ambassador in London. We trust our representations, especially if brought to his Majesty's notice with your Lordship's wonted prudence, will prove acceptable." Wotton's silence did not convey the impression that he shared this expectation. The Venetian Ambassador was instructed to lay the final answer of his Government before the King, but before he had time to do so the Venetian Governor-General in Crete sent home a despatch and documents (Nos. 71 to 78) showing what had been done with the "Costley." In accordance with the orders of the Senate she had been handed over to the agent for the owners, Arthur Sheers, who on leaving

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for Chios, instructed the English Consul in Canea, Vivian Segari, to sell her for one thousand sequins. He did sell her to Zorzi Vlasto, who, however, failed to keep his bargain, and Segari, to avoid a suit, took over the purchase in the terms of the contract with Vlasto. Segari averred that Sheers had been informed of this transaction. He held the purchase money at the disposition of Sheers or of the Senate. The purchase was effected so as to prevent the "Costley" from rotting to bits in harbour, and he was now sailing her in the Archipelogo to purchase corn. Thus the subject in question legally changed hands and the incident was brought to a close as far as facts were concerned. On November 18th Marc' Antonio Correr had an audience of the King; he insisted that every request of the English Ambassador in Venice had been promptly granted; the whole matter reduced itself to the question of the legality of the seizure; the King assented, and Correr then pressed the clash of evidence. On the English side the testimony came from a few men, some of them agents in the alleged offence, others bound to the owners; on the Venetian side the evidence was given by the officers of the Republic and the ships' crews; as the Republic had frankly accepted the King's word for it that there was no contraband on board the "Costley," so Correr trusted that his Majesty would accept the Republic's word that there had been a breach of the convention. This was a subtle piece of diplomacy on Correr's part and produced the desired result, for the King replied, "It is the merchants' business to seek their own advantage; and without most convincing proof I shall not lend them credence," a remark which apparently cut across all Cordall and Company's hopes of recovering losses on the "Costley."

The case of the "Red Camel" (No. 111) was a case of derelict ownership. She was a Dutch ship which had on board Venetian merchants and their cargo of currants from Zante. She was cast away off the coast of Sussex and the Lord High Admiral and Lord Arundel both entered claim on the ground that she was found rudderless on the shore with "Neither human being, dog, nor cat on board." The Venetian

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Ambassador put in a request that the ship should be sequestrated, the cargo housed and inventoried, on the strength of Venetian ownership, until such time as the legal question could be settled. The Ambassador appealed direct to James, who said that the Admiral and Lord Arundel were quarrelling over the wreck; that the law was against the Venetian claim; but that as an act of grace, he would speak to the two Lords. They both professed willingness to waive their claims in order to oblige the Ambassador, but to avoid any prejudice to their rights, they refused to allow inventory, warehousing, or examination of marks. Negotiations produced no result (No. 153). The Earl of Arundel while professing readiness to assent, insisted on a written renouncement of all claim as of right and a reference of the whole matter to himself. To this the Venetian would not agree, for such a course would destroy all hope of recovering in the future. He resolved, if the solatium he intended to offer the Earl proved ineffectual, to apply once more to the King and even to seek a judgment from the Courts. Meantime Arundel and the Admiral had put forward their estimate of the value of the "Red Camel" as four thousand ducats. When James was again appealed to he expressed displeasure at Arundel's obduracy, but declined to interpose his own authority, though he promised to speak to the Judge in the Admiralty Court. This step was efficacious (No. 186), and Correr had the satisfaction of reporting that the Judge had shown himself so firm in demanding that Arundel should make immediate and effective deposit of all that had come into his hands that the Earl himself came to a voluntary composition, leaving two-thirds of the capital to the owners.

The Venetian Ambassadors add nothing new to our knowledge of Arabella Stuart's unhappy story. They give us some interesting details as to the marriage and the flight and a considerable amount of information as to Seymour's wanderings. Marc' Antonio Correr was clearly touched by the hard fate of the lady. He represents her as showing far more courage than her husband when summoned before Council to defend

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their conduct (No. 24). Salisbury also seems to have felt a respect for Arabella. He was ordered by James to read through and comment on Arabella's petition and took occasion to remark to Correr "that he did not blush to own that his style, for all that he was first Secretary, could not rival that of a woman; for he thought it would tax all Parliament to draft an answer that would correspond to the arguments and eloquence of the petition." Her flight in a French ship gave rise to a diplomatic incident. A courier from the Embassy was on board with despatches for France. When the ship was seized the despatches were opened and returned to the Ambassador without their covers. The Ambassador at once protested to Lord Salisbury and to the King (No. 258), and with partial success. He extracted a public declaration that both the captain and the courier were innocent. The King asked the French, the Archdukes, Spain and Venice to arrest Seymour if he should be found in their dominions. From the Archdukes he received a doubtful answer, conveyed in vague terms of respect. Venice promptly replied that she would oblige his Majesty, and did actually send orders to the governors of places where it was likely that Seymour might appear (No. 286). For this favour James returned thanks by letter, read to the Cabinet on December 1, 1610.

The question of the North-West Passage to the Indies receives some illustration. Prince Henry took a lively interest in the project and made himself "Protector" of the "Company of Discoverers of the North-West Passage," who received a grant of Incorporation on July 26th, 1612 (No. 358). Sir Dudley Digges published a little treatise on the subject, but Chamberlain writing to Carleton remarks "beatus qui intelligit." The Prince considered that the discovery would be a blow to Spain (Nos. 404, 446), and this was the opinion of the Spanish themselves (No. 492). Don Pedro de Zuñiga was instructed, when on his extraordinary mission, to do all that in him lay to thwart the scheme (Nos. 594, 604). But apart from the Prince's desire to injure Spain there was a strictly commercial reason which animated the English merchants. Complaints

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against the East India Company had been growing in volume; it was urged that the long voyage denuded England of many of her best ships and men, while the fact that English goods—that is chiefly English cloth—were not in demand in those hot climates led to the export of bullion as out-going cargo. Accordingly they "do resolve to attempt the discovery of a passage by seas into the said East Indies by the North-West through some part of America, which if they shall find navigable, then shall they by that passage arrive at the countries of Cataia and China, being the east parts of Asia and Africa, climates of that temperature which in all likelihood will aforth a most liberal vent of English clothes and kersies."[o] On Oct. 22, 1611, Foscarini sends a report on the subject. He says that seven years earlier a certain Captain Thompson, under the protection of the Dutch and in a Dutch vessel, had made the attempt to force the passage, but returned unsuccessful after a voyage of two years. Later on the East India Company again employed Captain Thompson, but with no better result. But two years ago, in 1609, he succeeded in forcing his way through into the China Sea and returned again by the same route; putting into Plymouth with the remains of his crew, twelve out of the twenty-five that sailed with him. Their ship was a small *berton* of about one hundred and fifty tons. The Prince examined them and they gave very full details of their voyage and submitted drawings, declaring that the journey there and back would only take eight months as against the two years required by the Cape route. Of course Captain Thompson's report was entirely fallacious. He probably had sailed into Hudson's Bay.

II.

To turn now to foreign affairs. The death of Henry IV. early in 1610 postponed for thirteen years the development of the anti Spanish-Austrian policy which would have governed the course of events. Marie de' Medici, the Queen Regent, and her ministers Villeroy and Sillery, were Spanish

[o] *See* Cunningham, op. cit. p. 259.

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in sympathy and firmly resolved that no breach should occur during the King's minority. The Italian branch of Henry's scheme, defined and established by Lesdiguières at Brusol, was now dropped, but the question of the Cleves-Juliers succession was too far advanced to be lightly abandoned. Salisbury was quite aware of the geographical importance of Cleves and Juliers in the struggle between Catholicism and the Reform; it formed a connecting link between the Protestant Princes of Germany and the United Provinces of the highest strategical value. James at once began to enquire what were the intentions of the French Government as regards Cleves, and he found that rather unwillingly they had resolved to carry out that part of Henry's plans; the Marshal de la Châtre was to be sent at the head of the French troops. James at once resolved to act in conjunction with the Dutch, and the English troops, under Cecil, reached Juliers by July 17th. Juliers fell on the 22nd of August, and was placed in charge of the Princes of the Union until the question of "possession" should be decided. James had no desire to be dragged into a war in which France would certainly remain neutral. Salisbury frequently declared that there would be no war. The King aspired to act as representative of the Protestant Princes in the dispute. The Princes of the Union were anxious to bind James definitely to their cause, and in November, 1610, Prince Christian of Anhault came over in their name to "urge the needs of the Union and to press the King to come to a resolution to place himself at their head and take them under his protection." The King was willing to support the Princes, but wished them to adopt a pacific policy. He laid stress on the fact that though the Union was formed merely for defence little could be expected from Denmark and Sweden. He observed that without a strong nucleus of foreign auxiliaries they could not make much resistance. Christian undertook to lay the King's views before his brother Princes, and departed with a present of a diamond jewel and several dogs and horses.

James was meantime acting as peace-maker between Denmark and Sweden, quite unsuccessfully at first; but

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after the capture of Kalmar (No. 342) and the battle of Wildsjö, the temper of both parties was more inclined to an agreement. James' agents, Sir Robert Anstruther and Sir James Spencer, were able to report on January 18th, 1613, that a basis of agreement had been reached chiefly, they say, thanks to their own ability.

In October, 1610, Dudley Carleton, who was appointed to succeed Wotton at Venice, started on his mission. He was accompanied by his wife and a suite of nineteen or twenty persons. He reached Turin on the last day of October and Milan on the 2nd November. But on approaching Crema in Venetian territory he found that the sanitary authorities had given orders to place him in quarantine (No. 86). The Governor of Crema found the matter a delicate one and sent off an express to intercept the Ambassador, but while waiting the messenger's return the Ambassador arrived before the gates and learned that he could not be admitted. Carleton was annoyed and declared that he would leave Venetian territory so as to avoid further inconvenience. The lateness of the hour, the Ambassador's fatigue and the expostulation of the Governor all combined to induce Carleton to accept the lodging that had been prepared for him outside the gates; and an express was sent to Venice for orders in the matter. But next morning Carleton was more than ever resolved to turn back, and the Governor was obliged to send apologies; the horses were already harnessed and the trunks on the carriage; but after some difficulty the Ambassador agreed to stay, and "still further to placate him bowls of sweets, quince, peach ices, peach paste, pistaccio, two jars of preserved citron, thirty different kinds of salad and some salted tongue, sixty pounds of cheese, six cappons, a barrel of Malmesey and another of Muscat were offered him. These Carleton received graciously and called the Ambassadress to come and taste the dainties, and after dinner he was so much mollified that he declared that if the Government decided to keep him out of Venice for fifteen or twenty days he merely begged that they would

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allow him to pass the time at Desenzano on the Lake of Garda." Orders arrived from Venice removing all obstacles and Carleton was allowed to proceed; he avoided Brescia and made for Desenzano, Verona and Padua where he lodged near the Eremitani, and met Wotton who came out of Venice on purpose. Meantime, the Governor of Crema, after having spent two hundred lire on the refreshments above mentioned, had a visit from an inn-keeper of the city who said that during the six days of Carleton's sojourn he had supplied his suite and fed his horses and coachmen on orders from the Ambassador's Majordomo. A bill for seven hundred lire had been presented and the Ambassador told the host to apply to the Governor and if that officer refused payment the bill might be sent on to Venice, where it would be discharged. "At such a claim," writes the Governor (No. 114), "I was amazed; for as I had made a present to his Excellency he could gather from this that I had no orders to be at charges for him, and had I had such orders the Ambassador would have been more civilly served than by a taverner. Feeling sure that a gentleman of his rank would not have acted thus without some grounds, I determined to go deeper into the matter, and on conferring with the two gentlemen I had appointed to wait on him I found that when the Ambassador had complained of the heavy expenses to which he was put by this delay, they, to end the matter courteously, had held out hopes that your Serenity would not allow him to be put to such charges." There is no evidence that Venice did pay the bill.

Carleton's diplomatic career in Venice closely resembles that of Wotton. There was little stirring of great moment, and his speeches in the Cabinet offer a close family likeness to those of his predecessor: the same windy compliments, the same petitions for pardon on behalf of protegèes. Two episodes of a lively character took place. In September, 1611, the Inquisition arrested a certain Giacomo Castelvetro, a man who had acted as Italian master to King James and was now in Carleton's service in a like capacity, though he did not inhabit the Embassy. Carleton at once sent to protest, adding

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that he imagined Castelvetro's position as his servant was unknown to the officers who had arrested him. The Government replied that they regretted the incident, but must hear the Holy Office before taking steps. Carleton waited four days, but seeing that nothing was done he appeared in person in the Cabinet, and lodged a vigorous protest against the indignity offered to his Embassy and himself. On September 10th the Senate ordered the release of Castelvetro and his surrender to the Ambassador on condition that he left the City and the State of Venice at once. The information of this order was conveyed to Carleton by a Secretary of the Senate late in the evening. The Ambassador was out taking the air, as was his wont every day after supper. On being fetched by his servants he expressed his satisfaction, but added that he could not compel Castelvetro to leave the city; he would, however, withdraw the certificate of protection, and that would, no doubt, induce Castelvetro to do so. The Nuncio, Berlingerio, Bishop of Rimini, meantime, protested that this episode would be resented at Rome, but the Patriarch and the Inquisitor declared that all would be well if Castelvetro would leave the State; as a matter of fact he did leave at once for France. The favour shown to Carleton was claimed as a precedent by the Spanish Ambassador when Georgio Cardosa, a dependant of the Spanish Embassy, was arrested by the Council of Ten, though the Senate refused to admit the plea that the cases were analogous (Nos. 682, 683).

The second incident of Carleton's mission was the arrest of a Neapolitan, a certain Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, who had roused the suspicions of the English Ambassador by offering to reveal to him a plot for murdering the King of England. The Venetian Government ordered Gaetano to be held at the disposition of the Ambassador, but refused to examine him themselves or to have anything to do with the case. Carleton reported the matter home, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, to whom the case was entrusted, considered it serious, though

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we doubt whether there was anything more in the story than in the many wild plots with which Europe was filled at the opening of the seventeenth century.

Sir Thomas Glover was still Ambassador at Constantinople and continued to protect and to house at the Embassy the Moldavian pretender Stephen Bogdan. James had committed himself to the interests of Stephen, but on finding that his presence at the British Embassy caused trouble at the Porte, he was anxious to withdraw. Glover, however, either did not find it easy to abandon Stephen, or for some reason, not clear, did not choose to do so (No. 134). He continued to bribe and to petition on behalf of Stephen until at last he was reported to have obtained an Imperial decree in Stephen's favour (No. 173). But the Polish Ambassador entered a protest against the presence of the pretender at the British Embassy (No. 344). Trouble was brewing for Glover. He had sheltered at the Embassy an apostate Minorite Friar, Vincenzo Marini, of Madaloni near Caserta. The English merchants made a collection for this man and he preached with virulence on Sundays against the Church of Rome (No. 240), "but as one abyss leads to another," writes Contarini, "the Blessed God disposed him to a life of such abominable looseness that his money ran out though he had good store of it." To eke out his resources Vincenzo offered to betray to the Turks a gentleman of the Ambassador's household and by a ruse he carried his plan into execution. The Ambassador was, of course, enraged, and arrested and imprisoned the friar while he imperatively demanded the release of his dependant. The Venetian Ambassador, Contarini, sent to suggest that the friar should be placed in his hands, and Glover assented. Contarini put Vincenzo in chains and sent him to Crete for good custody, adding, at the close of his despatch, "that ills never come singly and evil example is catching, and so the Dominican friar who serves this Embassy took to dissolute ways and when his vicar wished to change his monastery he flew into a rage and became a Turk along with a little slave of his, to the scandal and grief of those other poor clerics. It would be

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well that his Holiness should tell the Superiors of the Orders to send here only friars of proved virtue." But for various reasons, largely on the suspicion of being in Spanish pay, Glover was out of favour at home and the Turkey Merchants resolved to supersede him by Paul Pindar. Pindar passed through Venice in December, 1611, but left almost immediately and with all secrecy. By the 31st he is reported at Constantinople, where he informed Glover of his recall. This was the end of Stephen's hopes from English support. On February 24th, 1612, as the Sultan was going to the old Serraglio, Stephen approached him and in the usual formulæ professed himself a Turk, whereupon the Sultan gave him the Sanjak of Pistrina in Albania. Glover returned to London and successfully defended himself against the charges advanced. Pindar did not find his mission all smooth sailing. He informed his colleagues and the Turkish officials that his object was purely commercial, not political as Glover's had been. He was well received by all except Sanci, the French Ambassador, who was positively rude to him. Glover had reported to Pindar a conversation with Sanci in which the Frenchman had asked him, "How is it that your successor has come here so quickly and secretly? I hear he is a bankrupt merchant; take care he does not cozen you." Glover very loyally defended Pindar, and affirmed the validity of his letters. When Pindar made his formal visit to Sanci he at once brought up this conversation, declared it was true he was a merchant, but an honourable one. It was further true that bills of his for forty thousand piastres had been protested in England, but it was also true that he had instantly taken post for London and satisfied all claims; he, therefore, did not merit the term bankrupt. Sanci affected to be amazed, and swore he never said anything of the sort, but Pindar replied, "Sir, don't say that; a person who heard you use the expressions will tell you to your face that you did employ them." This tiff did not prevent Pindar from acting in concert with his French and Venetian colleagues. The Grand Vizir gave orders that all letters going out from Constantinople were to

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be stopped and opened, purely business letters would be forwarded; against this a joint protest was entered by the Ambassadors. Similarly they jointly resisted the imposition of the *casaplick*, a tax of one per cent. applied to the up-keep of the Janissaries. The Grand Vizir wished to apply the tax to all foreigners in order that he might farm it out and raise money for the Adrianople expedition, in which the Sultan was to take part. But the Ambassadors offered a vigorous and combined resistance. They declared they must report home on so striking an innovation. In vain the Vizir threatened to prohibit foreign cloth and silk if they would not grant his request. The first conference ended in a promise that the Ambassadors would consult and reply. At the second meeting the Vizir tried to bring pressure to bear by declaring that if the Ambassadors would not yield he would have to re-examine the various Capitulations, and by hinting that the Embassies might be removed from Pera to Stambul, an old weapon of the Grand Vizirs'. The Vizir argued that there was no law either in Gospels or Koran to prevent a Prince doing what suited him best in his own State; to which Contarini replied that it was much nearer the truth that no law permitted a Prince to break his word sworn in the Capitulations of each nation. At this point in the conference the Mufti came in, and was begged by the Ambassadors to speak in their favour, and thereupon the Vizir sent for the Sherbet and "let it be understood that no change would be made."

But perhaps the most remarkable event which took place at Constantinople as far as British interests are concerned was the advent and expansion of the Dutch. After the conclusion of the truce with Spain the United Provinces came rapidly to the front as a sea power; we have seen that they had undertaken to police the waters of Ireland and of Gibraltar against the pirates (No. 342); they were expanding in the East Indies and in the Levant. At Constantinople their object was to secure Capitulations on the same lines as France, England, and Venice. All three countries were suspicious of this move. The Dutch Ambassador in London, when announcing to Lord

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Salisbury the despatch of a Dutch mission to Constantinople, adopted an almost apologetic tone; as the truce with Spain had deprived them of one flourishing source of revenue it was necessary for them to open up trade in the Levant and the Mediterranean (No. 383). The English merchants were much disturbed, and foresaw the decline of the London market. Foscarini reports that "it is feared that as the Dutch have begun to trade in almost all parts of the Mediterranean they will absorb the whole traffic, as they are content with very moderate gains; their ships are light and do not cost half as much as English ships cost; owing to their lightness and the skill of their crews, they can sail with half the number of hands, and so though they last a shorter time they can offer freights at half the price of an English ship" (No. 492).

The Dutch Envoy was Cornelius Haaga. When he reached Constantinople he found a combination of French, English and Venetians opposed to him, and it cost him large sums of money and much time before he succeeded in securing the Capitulations (No. 569). The French Ambassador even went the length of offering ten thousand sequins to upset the negotiations. He had invited Pindar to stand in with him, but Pindar declined. When he saw, however, that the Dutch were really going to succeed, he himself approached the French Ambassador offering concerted action; only to be told that it was now too late (No. 631).

The main point of the Dutch Capitulations was that Dutch traders "were to pay five per cent. duty as do the French. The Envoy could not secure the English tariff of three per cent." The other nations, especially the French and the Spanish, suspected that there was a secret clause binding the Dutch to furnish ships and men in case the Turks came into collision with Spain. Very sinister rumours as to Dutch disloyalty to Christendom were diligently spread about. But James instructed by Pindar never believed them and vigorously denied them. The Dutch wasted no time in erecting factories and consulates at Aleppo, Cairo and other Turkish ports, and

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in despatching rich fleets to trade in the Levant; and presently a great ship "worthy of so great a monarch" was sent as a gift to the Sultan (No. 765). By April 18th, 1613, Foscarini reports from London, "the Dutch have brought such quantities of merchandize from Cyprus and Syria that prices have fallen so much that they stand to lose eighteen to twenty per cent. of their capital and that is quite certain. The cotton that three or four years ago fetched two shillings has dropped to ninepence." Contemporaneously Dutch expansion in the East Indies was going on apace (No. 822). They had made themselves masters of the Moluccas and had determined to establish their governor in Java. They sent a mission, of which Grotius formed a part, to endeavour to come to terms on common interests and common action in the East Indies between themselves and the English. They dwelt on the large sums they had expended on acquiring those islands and urged that it was unfair that the English and other subjects of his Majesty should trade there without contributing something towards the expenses; an argument the cogency of which James seemed to admit.

The documents in this volume throw considerable light on the history of the English at Leghorn. When Ma'amura was made uncomfortable for the pirates by Toledo's efforts to destroy the harbour entrance the buccaneers began to look about for other quarters. There were two sovereigns in Italy, the Grand Duke of Tuscany and the Duke of Savoy, who were ready to bid for their presence. We have seen that Savoy virtually opened the ports of Nice and Villefranche to them under a safe conduct for almost all imaginable crimes, while the Grand Duke encouraged them to settle in Leghorn, and held out hopes that he would allow them to fly the Tuscan flag. An Englishman,* Robert Dudley, calling himself Earl of Warwick, was in Leghorn enlarging the harbour and building a vessel on lines of his own designing. At the Tuscan Court Dudley was much consulted upon English affairs. He supported the

* *See* Vita di Roberto Dudley; per Giovanni Temple Leader, Firenze, 1896.

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Dowager Grand Duchess in her schemes for an English match, and he acted as a kind of protector to the English who desired to settle at Leghorn. The Grand Duke wished to preserve appearances and to be able to declare that his new subjects were not buccaneers; he accordingly required them to become Catholics and to swear to abandon piracy; but the London merchants were not taken in and repeatedly complained that stolen English goods were run into Leghorn and taken across to Goro and Ancona for re-shipment for the Levant.

Neither Dudley's ship nor his works on the port of Leghorn appear to have been very successful (No. 208). "It seems," says the Venetian Resident in Florence, "that the operations are harmful on account of the stench from the excavated earth; and some think the place will be uninhabitable; at least for a time"; "to avoid the great expense they employ only a few hands at a time, and the work will be a long one. Pray God it prove not useless as well. As to the expense, some put it at two, some at four, some at eight hundred thousand crowns. There is some complaint of the Earl of Warwick as though he were trying to secure his continuance here as long as he has no other asylum. His ship is like a galleasse but much smaller. It is to have twenty oars per bench and is certainly meant for privateering" (No. 263). "That ship of his has been launched and turns out to be good for nothing. It is likely to leak." By July, 1611, it is reported that three English captains who had come to reside in Leghorn, had arrived. They were first of all re-blessed at Pisa, as they now made profession of Catholicism. They left their ships behind at Ma'amura where the others were. "The Earl of Warwick will try to make them all come here, but it is doubtful whether they will care to share their booty with the Grand Duke. The plan is not impracticable, however, and if they do come it is to be feared that under the flag of the Grand Duke they will do much more mischief than in the past."

In September of the same year Captain Gifford sailed into Leghorn "on board a most beautiful ship, fully armed with

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one hundred and eighty men." This is the Captain Gifford who, resenting the Dey of Algiers' conduct as regards a prize he had brought in, set her on fire in the harbour and all but destroyed the whole Algerian fleet, causing the Dey to drive out the entire gang of English, among them Ward, who took shelter in Tunis.* When Gifford came to Leghorn he gave out that he had orders from James to engage the pirates at Ma'amura and to clear them out of Leghorn. But Gifford's brother buccaneers were not so easily decoyed; and presently it turned out that "his papers were forged and that he had put into Leghorn merely to spy the sailings," with a view of snapping them up whenever they left port. Meantime in London (No. 342) the Grand Duke's secretary, Ottaviano Lotti, vigorously denied that his master was sheltering pirates, and complained loudly of those who spoke so ill of his Highness. The Grand Duke on his side was dealing out justice at Leghorn among the turbulent crew his own policy had accumulated there (No. 366). Vendramin reports that "some slaves and Christians and other scamps have been hung for stealing silk, after having their noses and ears cut off." But this did not mean that the Grand Duke had ceased to encourage the settlement of pirates. In July, 1612, he gave leave to three buccaneers from Ma'amura to establish themselves in Leghorn with all their property which was in money. Complaints in London grew loud on the "report that goods plundered by English ships have been sold in Leghorn and taken to Ancona and Goro where the prices are higher." Many persons advocated the Tuscan match for the Prince of Wales as the best means of putting an end to this intolerable state of affairs. Whether it would have done so may be doubted, but it was never brought to the proof, as the Prince died in November of that year.

In an Appendix will be found the minutes of a trial for piracy conducted by the Commander of the Cretan Squadron.

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* *See* Corbet, op. cit. 1.12.

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My best thanks are again due to Mr. Story-Maskelyne for furnishing the Index to the present Volume.

HORATIO F. BROWN.

Ca' Torresella,
Venice,
May, 1905.

As this is the last volume of the Calendar which I shall edit, a list of the series of documents consulted may be of service. Certain numbers in the series yield but little that bears on English affairs, though I do not think that any can safely be neglected. It is also possible that in the great store of papers at the Frari there may be other series which have escaped my notice.

Senato, Secreta, Dispacci, Inghilterra.
" " Deliberazioni.
" " " Costantinopoli.
" " " Roma.
" " Communicate.
" Terra.
" Mar.
Collegio, Esposizioni Principi.
" " Roma.
" Lettere Secrete.
" Lettere.
" Notatorio.
" Lettere Rè e Regine.
" Ceremoniale.
Consiglio de' Dieci, Capi, Parti.
" " " " Notatorio.
" " " " Lettere.
" " " " Lettere Ambasciator

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Consiglio de' Dieci, Parti Communi.
" " " " Roma.
" " " " Secrete.
" " " Processi Criminali.
Senato, Secreta, Dispacci Francia.
" " " Spagna.
" " " Roma.
" " " Costantinopoli.
" " " Germania (copy).
" " " Corfu.
" " " Zante.
" " " Candia Proveditore.
" " " " Rettori.
" " " " Capitano della guardia.
" " " Milano.
" " " Brescia.
" " " Padova.
" " " Verona.
" " " Firenze.
" " " Savoia.
Inquisitori di Stato, Dispacci.
" " " Confidenti.
" " " Diarii.
Quarantia Criminale, Indice.
" Civile, Indice.
Cinque Savii alla Mercantia, Indice.
Proveditore alla Sanità, Necrologii.

H. F. B.

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CORRIGENDA.

p. 1, l. 12, *for* gall nutts *read* gall nuts.
p. 38, l. 29, *dele* " la."
p. 45, l. 13, *for* Ecurier *read* Ecuyer.
p. 58, l. 2 from bottom, *for* Burclay *read* Burlacy.
p. 62, l. 11 from bottom, *for* cappons *read* capons.
p. 83, l. 20, *for* Canstantinople *read* Constantinople.
p. 104, l. 2, *for* Bishops *read* Bishop.
p. 109, l. 7, *for* take of *read* take off.
p. 113, l. 23, *for* Reneria *read* Reniera.
p. 132, l. 18 from bottom, *for* Theobolds *read* Theobalds.
p. 171, l. 6, *for* Fontainebleau *read* Fontainbleau.
p. 195, l. 17, *for* Thomas Shirley *read* Sir Robert Sherley.
p. 248, l. 7, *dele* " not."
p. 252, l. 27, *for* Carisuis *read* Carisius.
p. 287, l. 2 from bottom, *for* Sailsbury *read* Salisbury.
p. 288, l. 5 from bottom, *for* Court *read* Count.
p. 331, l. 16 from bottom, *for* Embassay *read* Embassy.
p. 356, l. 15, *for* parts *read* part.
p. 358, l. 7, *for* Zaune *read* Zuane.
p. 373, l. 13 from bottom, ? *for* Firuze *read* Firenze, *i.e.* Florence ?
p. 393, l. 21 from bottom, *for* Fransiscan *read* Franciscan.
p. 403, l. 28, *for* Ciorli *read* Chiolli.
p. 436, l. 4, *for* Ciorli *read* Chiolli.
p. 459, l. 9, *for* President *read* Resident.
p. 466, l. 21 from bottom, *for* Babalonian *read* Bábylonian.
p. 494, l. 24, *for* Londra *read* London.
p. 519, l. 19 from bottom, *for* Cumanelli *read* Fumanelli.
p. 527, l. 13, *for* Transylavania *read* Transylvania.
p. 539, l. 3 from bottom, ? *for* Saxony *read* Savoy.
p. 559, l. 2 from bottom, *for* Greglielmotti *read* Guglielmotti,

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VENETIAN AND OTHER PAPERS.

A.D. 1610.

1610.
July 3.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

1. Giovanni Mocenigo, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

To-morrow in the Church of St. Peter, Fra Fulgentio* will openly abjure; it is thought, moreover, that after abjuration he will be handed to the secular arm, as one who had already abjured though secretly. They say that on him have been found letters patent from the King of England for his passage into that kingdom; also forged letters from his Superiors and other matters which condemn him.

Rome, 3rd July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 5.
Collegio. Lettere. Venetian Archives.

2. We Venetian Merchants partners in the gall nutts (*Vallonia*) and other goods laden in the Morea on board the ship "King David," Master Giovanni Bolino, which ship was seized by Don Anthony Sherley (*Serlei*) General of his Catholic Majesty in the Mediterranean—and is now taken into Palermo—are obliged to send our legal Agent and Attorney, Messer Giovanni Bolino, citizen and merchant of this city, in order that he may secure, before the Viceroy of Sicily or other Magistrate, the restitution of our capital and restore it to us.

We petition for letters from the Government supported by letters from the Spanish Ambassador, to whom we will demonstrate the justice of our claim, requesting the Viceroy to order restitution.

Order made to entrust the affair to the *Savii Grandi* and the *Savii di Terraferma* (*ai Savii dell' un et dell' altra mano*).

[*Italian.*]

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* Fra Fulgenzio Manfredi, one of Sarpi's colleagues in the defence of the Republic in her struggle with the Curia, not to be confounded with Fra Fulgenzio Micanzi, Sarpi's biographer.

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1610.
July 7.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

3. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The business of Parliament has kept his Majesty's mind much occupied these last few days. He has frequently come to London to deal with the Members and to consult with his Council. His Majesty is rightly anxious about this business both on account of the resolve they display not to yield him anything without a return in the matter of their demands and also because of the licence of speech which they adopt; and it seems that the ancient curb with which the King's predecessors held them in check is growing slack. Parliament claims an almost absolute superintendence in everything. The King who desires to reach an agreement which shall be satisfactory to all parties has abandoned the persuasions and threats which hitherto have hindered his desire and now endeavours to pacify the minds of the Members. He deals gently with them and offers to satisfy them on many of their demands. It is thought that some of the imposts on certain goods will presently be removed and they will then at once vote some subsidy. Meantime they do not omit to study the source from which so large a sum may be raised.*

The intention to summon Parliament in October holds good. They will discuss wardships and purveyance. It has occurred to them to place a tax on beer, which although of a light nature would be sure to yield a large revenue.

The difficulty between the Upper and Lower House will not be so easily settled. The Nobility, in virtue of their privileges, refuse to contribute towards the burdens which will have to be imposed; the Commons declare that the relief will be felt far more by the Nobility than by the Commoners.

The Prince of Brunswick has returned to Germany for the marriage of his sister to the third brother of Saxony. He will stay a few days in the Low Countries. He has been splendidly entertained here, and has received from the King and the Prince, in addition to horses and dogs, jewels to the value of one hundred thousand crowns; some of these are meant for the Duke, his father, for his mother, and his sisters. On the other hand he has left many gifts to persons at this Court. *There is still some idea of marrying him to the Princess and that, I take it, was the import of his remark that he hoped to return soon to England.* He honoured this house once again with his presence before his departure, and charged me to convey to your Serenity the affection and regard in which he holds the Republic.

In Ireland there are nine pirate vessels which have met there partly to divide their booty, partly to take in provisions. They can lie there quite safely, for there is no force in these waters able to give them battle. In addition to the damage wrought by these robbers, there is the loss at Cape Verd Island of a ship with a very rich cargo of pepper from the East Indies bound for England. Two others have reached Holland in safety.

These merchants have news from Hamburg, Lübeck, and other German towns that trade with England has been suspended and

* Decipher reads "far" but cipher reads "g 26" = "not."

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1610.

English goods seized. They are in a great commotion, expecting many failures, and also because the greater part of the cloth, which forms the chief wealth of this nation, is distributed through Germany. The cause assigned is the King's declaration in favour of the two "possessioners" in the affair of the Duchy of Cleves, though there are not wanting other disagreements of a commercial nature.

The Prince of Condé arrived in Brussels some days ago. He sent his Secretary, under safe-conduct from the Ambassador, to arrange certain points about his return to France.

The Archdukes have retired to Marimont, their country place, which is a proof that their minds are at rest. Before their departure they appointed an ambassador to this Court, and the King has on his side named a gentleman to that Legation which has been vacant a whole year. I also hear that a successor to the Ambassador Wotton will soon be named; Wotton will be sent to Spain.

Some French gentlemen are seeking a patent for a kind of oven and other inventions which consume only half the wood at present used.* I hear they have got their patent in France and are seeking it in Italy and Germany, so as to secure the profits everywhere. Here they employ a great lady of the Court, with the protection of the Prince, to whom they have offered a great sum, said to amount to one hundred thousand crowns. His Majesty is well pleased with the scheme, as it will effect a saving in the forests, which begin to show a failing.

There is another Frenchman here who offers to extract silver from lead, which is abundant in this kingdom. I am told that experiments have yeilded four ounces of silver in one hundred pounds of lead; that the King would draw each week twice as much as he spent, and would make an annual gain of one million of gold. They are waiting to learn the terms of his demands for his secret, which consists of certain drugs. He also declares that he has a secret for minerals, which exist in the territory of your Serenity, from which one could extract half the profit that one would from lead.

I have duly received the information you have been pleased to send me about the episode with Don Inigo di Cardenas.†

London, 7th July, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

July 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

4. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador is urging the King to accept three hundred thousand crowns in two years for the entire extinction of the loan made by Queen Elizabeth to the French Crown in its need.

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., July 27, 28, 1610. "Touching a patent of invention granted in favour of Henry Wright, a poor man, who had a promise of a patent for furnaces." "License to Sir Wm. Slingsby, And. Palmer, Edwd. Wolverston, and Rob. Clayton, to make furnaces, bell-metal, etc., with sea and grit coal instead of wood and charcoal, for 21 years."

† *See* Cal. S.P. Ven. May 18, 1610.

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1610.

The remainder, he claims, was included in the moneys disbursed by Henri IV. to the United Provinces, as he had to fulfil the King of England's obligations towards the States. The ambassador hopes to conduct the matter to a good conclusion and to leave at the beginning of next month, *after establishing a good understanding and mutual obligations between these Crowns; about this he will find no difficulty.*

I am assured from a sound source that the King has refused to sign the proposals made to him by the Princes of Germany, and that the United Provinces have followed the example. They have expressed approval but declare that, at present, they can gire no further proof of their good will than what is shown by their assistance to Cleves.

In the affair of Cleves nothing is more certain than a desire for an accord.

The King and his Council are very suspicious of the designs and leanings of the French Queen. They think she has an absolute horror of heretics, and is more likely to be ready to persecute them than to help them. On this account they watch attentively all the actions of the new Government. If the aid to Cleves were recalled that would confirm the suspicion, and even if it were actually conceded, that would not be enough to remove it, as it might be thought that the Queen felt herself bound by the action of her husband.

*The reported death of the King and the rumours from abroad that conspirators were pursuing his life have produced a very bad result here for the Catholics.** *They are clearing out of the City; both Parliament and the King rigorously refusing to make any exceptions.* The King has warned all Ambassadors not to admit any of his subjects to the Mass, nor to allow English priests to celebrate in their chapels. Such activity is unusual and, as a rule, some of the Ambassadors are allowed to employ English priests, and I am sure that Lord Salisbury is aware of it.

Lewkenor came to tell me in the King's name that Parliament had desired him to use this diligence, and that other persons had been sent for this purpose to other Ambassadors. *I know that some have replied, after repeated warnings, that they can not shut the door on those who wish to come in, nor would the dignity of their Embassy permit them to do so.* All the same I thought well to assure him that during the hour of Mass I always keep the doors shut and that I would use further diligence to secure that no English came in along with Italians and other foreigners. I begged Lewkenor to assure his Majesty that no one was allowed to celebrate Mass in my chapel except the priest in my service. Later on Lewkenor told me that the King had expressed satisfaction at this answer, and intended to thank me personally before his departure on Progress. To-day he sent me a roe slain by his own hand.

London, 7th July, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. June 2, 1610. Proclamation for due execution of all former laws against recusants, and for banishing Priests and Jesuits.

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1610.
July 8.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

5. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Foscarini announces that the Queen Regent will continue the late King's policy everywhere, including England and Denmark.

Paris, 8th July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 10.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

6. Giovanni Mocenigo, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

On Sunday afternoon, in the Church of St. Peter, Fra Fulgentio abjured. There was present an infinite number of people. The Superiors of all the Orders were summoned to attend. I have learned from those who heard the minutes of the trial read out, that in documents in his own handwriting found in his cell he endeavoured to diminish and abolish Pontifical authority.

Fra Fulgentio was not aware that he was to make this abjuration till two hours before they took him into St. Peter's; he believed that he was to be absolved upon some salutary penance or something of little more importance; accordingly when, in the reading of the trial he heard himself styled "relapsed" and when the sentence of the Holy Office was published by which he was to be degraded and handed to the secular arm, he changed entirely and swooned away from the excessive fear which fell upon him. He was taken from St. Peter's to his degradation; and although it is customary to grant to those about to die for such crimes one or two days' grace, and the execution of the sentence was actually announced for Tuesday, nevertheless on Monday morning, very early, in the Campo di Fiore, he was hung by the neck from a stake, at which he was afterwards burned. At his death he showed great compunction of penitence, declaring aloud that he desired to die in the bosom of the Holy Roman Apostolic Church, repeating the word "Roman" several times, to the mighty edification of the bystanders. The tragedy that has befallen this unhappy man has given occasion to much discussion as to past events, and also because from this quarter he was enticed to leave Venice and was even assured of the protection and favour of his Holiness; and all the more so that, without that first abjuration which he was forced to make secretly on his arrival and merely as a form which would not deprive him of any rights, it would have been impossible to declare him "relapsed" and consequently they could not have put him to death. All the same those who heard the trial declare that he justly forfeited the protection of his Holiness and that it was impossible for them not to execute sentence on his person, for he affirmed positively that St. Peter was not the head of the Apostles, that the Pope was not St. Peter's successor, that he had no authority to create Bishops, that the Council of Trent was not general, that the Pope was a heretic, that friars and priests might marry, that it was not obligatory to consecrate the Sacrament in the Roman fashion; moreover he was in understanding with a heretic Prince in Germany and was minded to retire there in order to write and to

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1610.

live freely; that he had written letters to the King of England and had received in his cell a heretic English pilgrim, to whom he had said that he would like to go to England and by whom he was assured that the King would make much of him; and other such things.

Rome, 10th July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

7. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

On Tuesday, the Ambassador of the Count Palatine had letters from his Master saying that in Heidelberg (*Ahidemberg*) there had been arrested the Jesuit who was head of the conspiracy against the King of England. His name is Charles Baldwin, and the Palatine is ready to send him to England on a sign from his Majesty. This news has caused fresh condemnation here of the Jesuits' teaching, and chiefly on the point of regicide. Voices have been raised so high, so manifold and unanimous, that they were hardly more so at the time of the King's death. Parliament continues to proceed against various Jesuit books. They defend themselves as best they can, but that will not be enough. Cotton has published a little book by him which has produced an effect the reverse of what he intended.

Paris, 11th July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 13. Collegio, Secreta. Lettere. Venetian Archives.

8. To the Viceroy of Sicily.

Letters of recommendation on behalf of the Agent for the owners in the case of the ship "King David," sent by Sherley into Palermo.

Ayes 20.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

July 13. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

9. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:

"I am come this morning to re-open the question of the ship 'Corsaletta'; but first I must congratulate those gentlemen who in the recent change of office have entered this august assembly. I am particularly pleased, for among them are some who are fully informed upon this subject, and others who know how much his Majesty has it at heart. I rejoice at their presence, which is my gain.

As I have to-day to speak about this matter for the last time, will your Serenity bear with me if I briefly rehearse the arguments thereon?

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I claim the restitution of this ship in the same condition as when she was seized by your Serenity's galleys. This is our demand pure and simple, and we base it on two grounds, one is strict justice, the other the resolution of the Senate.

As to the first ground, that of justice, we say that the seizure was unjust, and we prove it in two ways; first the seizure took place in waters that do not belong to the Republic; although she claims to be mistress of the whole Mediterranean, still, as a matter of fact, the area is much more restricted; my Master is supreme only in those waters immediately around his islands and harbours. This is the fundamental argument. The second is that the master of the ship declares and proves that he conformed to the convention, that is to say he struck his foretop-gallant and was ready to send his ship's boat. Having fulfilled his obligations the arrest is unwarranted, and should anyone urge that there was contraband on board the answer is that neither on this account should the ship have been seized, for she took in her cargo at Turkish ports, in the territory of the Grand Signor, goods brought there by your Serenity's own subjects. I have some knowledge of the law of contraband. It says that goods laden at Zante are contraband; these goods were not laden at Zante but in the ports and territory of the Grand Signor, therefore it is not contraband.

But let us leave this first head of our case and come to the second: the resolution of the Senate. Your Serenity will remember that the first time I came here to demand restitution of the ship, the Most Excellent Senate was pleased to direct that the ship should to be restored precisely in the condition in which she was when seized. Those orders remaining unfulfilled, and we know why, your Serenity, at my instance, repeated the orders which reached the illustrious Signor Sagredo, then Governor in Crete. In the interval between the first and the second orders the ship and the goods had undergone such deterioration that the Agent of the interested parties, who had gone to Crete for this very purpose, refused to receive them. A claim was made for indemnification for the ship and its cargo in order that the resolution of the Senate might take effect, and the ship be restored as it was when seized, which was not its condition on the arrival of the second order. Had the first order been handed to the petitioners there would be nothing to say; the question would be closed, as the mistake would have been theirs. But the order was not handed to them. Your Serenity despatched it by another channel and it was not executed. On these grounds it is reasonable that as your Serenity conceded the restitution of the ship and cargo in the state they were in when seized, and both having deteriorated in the interval between the two orders, it is reasonable, I say, that your concession should be carried into effect by indemnification for loss. Nor should attention be paid to what is alleged here, nor yet to what is urged on our side; set aside both sets of assertions; enquire again, and the truth will be discovered. For the parties here assert what makes for their case, and our side may possibly do the same; it is a law that persons will defend themselves and support their own interests. I await from your Serenity the reply I am to send to England."

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The Doge answered: "My Lord Ambassador, as we have several times discussed the case of this ship, and as the Senate has given a reply two or three times to your demands, we thought the business was concluded, and that there was nothing more to be said; but since your Lordship has chosen to re-open the question in the terms just now employed, these gentlemen will take the matter in hand again, and in conjunction with the Senate will make such reply as is suitable. We must, however, remark that, as to the ship having been rightly or wrongly seized, the captain of our galleys who has in charge the protection of those waters, which are swarming with pirates, could not do less than carry out his orders and follow the rules of his naval profession which it was his duty to obey. As to the question whether the ship had conformed to the convention or not we refer to the report of our officers; and if there has been here some error—though we fail to see any—there is ground for excuse; for after the fact, which is certain, the ship was taken to Crete, and we did all that was right. At your Lordship's instance and to please his Majesty we issued orders for restitution, and it is to be believed that our letters were handed to the interested parties, who, it is to be supposed, would send them by the quickest and safest channel. But the parties did not present them. Your Lordship then came to ask us for fresh orders, and we immediately issued them. The moment they reached the Governor-General Sagredo he was ready to carry them out, but the Agent of the parties, as has been pointed out already to your Lordship, to whom Sagredo's letters were read, refused to receive consignment of the ship and the goods on the ground that some part was in bad condition. He was advised to call a Council of XII.* to decide the question, but this he declined to do, and so the blame does not lie with our officers, but with the Agent. This being so and the damage being due to the lapse of time between the first order, which the owners did not present, and the second, there is no ground for imputing any neglect to our servants. It would have been better had the episode never occurred, but as it has occurred, we could not do more than to restore the goods as they are, for it is obviously impossible for us to cause the damaged ship and goods to return to their pristine condition. This much we desired to rehearse to your Lordship. These gentlemen will, in conjunction with the Senate, take up the matter again and reply as is suitable."

The Ambassador said: "From what your Serenity has justly observed to me I gather that you consider the question closed. I too wish it were ended and that I never had had to touch again upon a subject that was disagreeable; but, so help me God, never a despatch reaches me without express orders from my Master to deal closely with your Serenity on the matter because of the incessant complaints and insistence of the owners, whom his Majesty can not abandon. I, as his Majesty's Envoy, must obey, and I ought to be excused by your Serenity."

* *See* Rezasco, *Dizionario del linguggio Italiano storico ed Amministrativo.* Firenze, 1881, *s.v.* "Dodici." "Council of Twelve, a body of merchants which every Venetian Consul or Bailey at a sea port was bound to consult on matters relating to the Consulate."

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The Ambassador went on to thank his Serenity for the appointment of Foscarini to the Embassy in England. "I rejoice greatly, for I well know that when the news of the Chevalier Giustinian's appointment to France reached the Court there was some bitterness felt by Lord Salisbury and other Ministers owing to the ancient rivalry between the two Crowns. I never failed to insist, in my despatches, that the Senate, which always acts with the greatest deliberation, would find a way to remove any little jealousy roused by the appointment of Giustinian. I am therefore consoled that the Illustrious Sig. Foscarini has been named to Great Britain. He is a gentleman of great parts, and I am informed by the Ambassador of Great Britain at the Court of France that Foscarini has always maintained friendly relations with him. Foscarini has shown on a recent occasion that he would not shrink from risking his life for his country,* and I may say that the more Venetian he is the more pleasant and acceptable will he be to our Court; though I must add that his Majesty will part from the Ambassador Correr with great regret, both on account of his excellent qualities and of the singular sincerity which he has displayed in recent events, and I am charged by Lord Salisbury to attest this in his Majesty's name to your Serenity."

The Doge replied that he was glad that the appointment of Foscarini was approved. When the Republic appointed an Ambassador, however, no attention ought to be paid to that Ambassador's name, quality or multiplicity of service, but solely to his character as representing the State. The Ambassador's mantle and robe, once conferred, gave the rank. An election has no other significance than the appointment of an Ambassador. His Serenity proceeded to explain the method of an election. It was true, he added, that sometimes the State had compassion on those who had served for long, sometimes it would elect a person who desired office, sometimes it elected a person because no other was available at the moment. In no case was any discrimination of importance between Crown and Crown intended.

The Ambassador said he was glad to have this information. He had made his remarks merely because he knew that the matter was not rightly understood at the Court of England, where the Election of Giustinian was considered to imply a certain superiority in the Court of France. For it was known that the Republic distributes its offices by rank, and is not wont to send an Ambassador who has been with one King to the Court of another. He now considered that by the appointment of Foscarini to England the Senate desired to declare the equality of the Crowns.

The Ambassador then recalled to mind his petition for the commutation of sentence on a poor prisoner.† The Doge said the petition had not been taken into consideration as yet, for the law required the attendance of all the members of the Council of Ten, that is seventeen, and that all seventeen should vote unanimously, a very rare event, even in the case of matters affecting the nobility

* *See* Cal. S.P Ven. May 18, 1610.
† Cumano. *See* Cal. S.P. Ven. May 19, 1610.

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itself. But the petition would be considered in due course, as there was a desire to give the Ambassador every satisfaction.

[*Italian.*]

July 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

10. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Hears from Brussels that the Marchese Spinola has gone to Maastricht and will remain on the frontier to sow suspicions, but he will not put his army in the field, partly because he is far inferior in numbers, partly because he is unwilling to risk his troops which are the backbone of the Archdukes' and even of the Spanish forces; the King of Spain has no other veterans. Further, as pay is due to the troops they might easily mutiny if placed in the field.

The English Ambassador* told me that the Marchese Botti† had discussed at length the possibility of settling the question of Cleves by an agreement. To this the Ambassador replied insisting on the claims of the "possessioners" in such a way that the Marchese was struck dumb, and the Ambassador added that the "possessioners" would be supported by arms, and if it were necessary his Master would send not four or five thousand men but eight or ten thousand, and the whole force would be raised proportionately. The Marchese said not another word, but merely asked the Ambassador whether he had said all this to the Austrian Agents. The Ambassador replied that he had nothing to do with them nor was he bound to render account to them; that he had only spoken because the Marchese had invited him and so given him an opening.

Hears that Lesdiguières has raised the number of his officers so as to be ready at a moment's notice to raise the number of his troops.

Paris, 14th July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

11. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Imperial Edict, in virtue of which the goods and the credit of the English in Hamburg and Lübeck were sequestrated, was issued in the days of Queen Mary, because her Majesty had revoked various privileges enjoyed by the Hanseatic cities of Germany in return for services rendered to the Crown. The Queen did not desire foreigners to enjoy privileges over her own subjects. This Edict was suspended on the request of Elizabeth, and negotiations, which still remain unsettled, were then opened. In the meantime the English who were nearly excluded from trade with Germany (which was considered of great moment on account of the distribution of their cloth) are now absolute masters and have absorbed the

* Sir Thomas Edmondes. The rent of his house in Paris was £50. Cal. S.P. Dom., 13 Aug., 1610.

† The Florentine Agent.

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whole trade. All the same no one here doubts that the reason for putting the Edict in force is the aid given to the "possessioners" in Cleves against the interest of the Emperor, so the Lords of Council openly declare. The capital engaged amounts to eight hundred thousand crowns. Heavier loss is expected in other towns, for the same orders were sent to Stade, though not obeyed by the citizens.

The King has sent Le Sieur, who two years ago was Ambassador in Tuscany, to the Hanseatic cities to enquire into the particulars of the case and then to proceed to Prague to procure the recall of these orders; further, he has sequestrated certain German goods here, has put all the papers and books under seal, and has manned two men-of-war which he intends to employ, along with three others, to harass the German shipping as it sails West. If Le Sieur fails at the Imperial Court, they intend to proceed to more hostile acts with the help of the King of Denmark, who, thanks to his geographical position, can easily block trade between the Hanseatic towns, and who, on account of his claims on Lübeck, will gladly embrace the opportunity to co-operate with his Majesty against that city. This resolve will not be of any service to Germany, which is the object aimed at, as your Serenity will gather from subsequent letters.

The succour destined for Cleves is at the frontier of that State and will be followed up by Count Maurice. This is a proof that they will not enter the State in any hurry, otherwise we should have heard of the force being under the command of the Prince of Anhault.

At Düsseldorf the Ambassadors and Commissioners of the United Princes are assembling to discuss the demands formulated at the Convention of Prague, and about the interests of the pretenders in Cleves and Juliers; also as to the general claim to possession put forward by Brandenburg, Neuburg and Saxony and the private property of Deuxponts, Nevers and Bouillon; points that, even after absolute possession has been determined, will present many difficulties.

The Dukes of Wirtemberg and Holstein and the Margrave of Baden, who were chosen at the Diet of Hall as arbiters, are firm in refusing to act unless the Kings of France and England and the Princes of the Union pledge their forces to support the finding of the arbiters, supposing any one of the parties should refuse obedience. All these Princes are more disposed to an agreement than to war, *and this accounts for the slowness with which the succours advance.* All the same, from what I hear from a sound quarter, they will hardly allow Juliers to remain in the hands of a neutral during the suspension of arms unless the Court, which is to settle claims, is appointed to their liking.

Besides the first pay which was given to the four thousand English foot on the 25th of May no other money has been sent for that purpose. The forty days which the pay covered expired on the 5th inst., and I hear they are thinking of a fresh remittance.

Lord Wotton,* brother of the Lieger to your Serenity, has been appointed Ambassador to France to congratulate the King and Queen on the succession to the Crown. On the part of England nothing

* *See* Nichols, "Progresses of King James the First," II, 363.

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that could redound to the honour and contentment of France is omitted, as both its peace and the continuance of a good understanding are equally desired.

The massing of troops in the Duchy of Milan causes some talk at Court. It would be deeply regretted if any misfortune should happen to the Duke of Savoy; *not that it is thought that Spain is very eager to be embroiled in war, nor that, in any circumstances, would his Highness be abandoned by the Queen of France; and the English Ambassadors are instructed to make representations on this point in favour of the Duke.*

Many French gentlemen are arriving in Brussels to accompany the Prince and Princess of Condé on their return to France. The Prince of Orange will go with them, and the Archdukes intend to give them a little fête before they go, as they have made peace and settled some points of no slight difference between them.

The King has heard from Venice that news of his death was received with universal sorrow by the whole city. He has shown great satisfaction at this information.

Parliament having conceived a hope of conducting to an end the abolition of wardship and other impositions, shows itself more temperate in speech and more disposed to oblige his Majesty. All the same it desires a still further reduction of the new imposts on merchandise, and a declaration that for the future no innovations shall be made in this matter without the consent of Parliament. Parliament would be much more ready to satisfy his Majesty were it not checked by the lavishness he displays towards the Scottish nation, of which public and loud complaints are raised. And yet quite recently of a sum of four hundred thousand ducats which he borrowed from the merchants, at the usual rate of ten per cent. he gave eighty thousand to Robert Carr in return for certain property which was taken from him to create a Barony for the Duke of York.* (*Si mostrerebbono questi Signori molto più pronti a compiacer la Maestà sua se non venissero ritardati dalla liberalità che usa con la natione Scocese, di che fanno publiche et grandissime lamentationi, et pure ultimamente della summa di* 400^{m} *ducati trovati da questi mercanti con il solito interesse di* x^{-1} *per cento le donò* 80^{m} *al S^{r}. Robert Car in ricompensa di alcuni beni che godeva, levattgli per formar una baronia per il Duca di Jorc.*)

One of the prisoners indebted for ten thousand ducats to the parties interested in the "Reniera e Soderina" has appealed to the Lord Chief Justice (*il Gran Giustitiario*) to be enlarged upon certain fictitious pleas. I was warned in time and rendered his effort vain. Then all three prisoners petitioned Parliament, complaining that they were refused leave to appeal from the judgement entered against them. They hope that Parliament will ignore the royal Proclamation which requires the satisfaction in full of the damages given in cases of piracy, before leave to appeal can be granted, for Parliament claims that the creation of new laws belongs to itself alone. On the one hand I showed that I had no cause for alarm, as the King had frequently put in his word in this matter and so has the Council; on the other hand I have not neglected to

* *See* Nichols, *op. cit.* II. 416. Note.

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make secret and efficacious representations to friends of this house who have weight in Parliament and have explained to those who can assist us the nature of our case. I am endeavouring to interest the Lords of the Council, who assure me absolutely that they will not permit any change *although, judging from my experience on other occasions, I can not sleep securely on this point.*

London, 14th July, 1610.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

July 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

12. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

At the moment that the news of the sequestration of English merchandize in the cities of the Empire reached London the Ambassador of Wirtemberg also arrived on his return from Paris. *The King has shown great readiness to subscribe the capitulations of Hall. Hitherto he has declined to bind himself by them, either because he wished to wait and see what happened in France, or because he placed little reliance on the forces of Germany, or to show that he had not changed his mind on the death of the King of France, to whose aggrandizement the confederation appeared to be directed quite as much as to the preservation of the Protestant Princes. I hear that on his Majesty's arrival in London the signing will take place. The United Provinces will do the like for they have long desired and toiled for such a Union. They are sure that they will have to go to war again with Spain as soon as the Spanish, either through a recovery of power or on a suitable opportunity, shall think they can bring them again under their dominion.*

The negotiations of the French Ambassador are concluded. The King agrees to accept in full satisfaction of the debt due from the French Crown, two hundred thousand crowns in two years, and that the States of the United Provinces should call themselves debtors for the rest. Thus the capitulations of the reigns of Elizabeth and Edward VI. will be renewed. There is still, however, some slight difficulty with the States of Holland, who are unwilling to submit to this payment, as they assert that they received the money unconditionally. But this business too is proceeding satisfactorily and will soon be concluded.

Yesterday, news came from Germany that in the Rhine Palatinate a Jesuit called Baldwin * (*Bodwino*) had been arrested on his way to Italy. His Majesty has long desired to have him in his hands as one of the Gunpowder Plot Conspirators. His Majesty had

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1603-1610, *pp.* 631, 634, 637, 640. Sir Ralph Winwood informed Salisbury of Baldwin's capture at Heidelburg. He advised that Baldwin be handed to Sir John Burlacy and Capt. Dewhurst for conveyance to the Tower, and that the King should thank the Elector Palatine and the Prince of Anhault. In September of this year, Capt. Turner advises Salisbury from Paris that the Nuncio had consulted him as to decoying some young English noble to the States of the Church, where he might be held as a hostage for Baldwin. On Oct. 8th, Burlacy and Dewhurst held a warrant for £120 for conveying Baldwin to London. *See also* Winwood *Memorials III.* 211, 212, 407. Baldwin attempting to reach Augsburg, passed himself off as Alessandro Prawn. He was detected and denounced by the hostler, who saw him reading letters from Lady Lovell in the stable. In 1612 there was a proposal to exchange Baldwin for "poor Mr. Mole, the Lord Rosse's tutor that hath been so long in the Inquisition at Rome."

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frequently demanded him from the Archdukes. The King desires to learn from Baldwin certain details upon which he has not full information, why two of the leaders preferred to die fighting rather than yield themselves living into the hands of justice.

This news has been sent post haste to his Majesty, who certainly will think it the best he could receive.

The imprisoned Priests will this week be shipped across to France and banished, except a Capuchin and a Jesuit who are in the Tower on charge of plotting against the State.

London, 14th July, 1610.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

July 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

13. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have paid various accounts for letters as per receipts enclosed; £20 17*s.* 6*d.* to be deducted for payments made by Contarini when Ambassador Extraordinary at this Court. To meet these bills I have drawn on Calendrini and Burlamachi for £89 17*s.* 4*d.*, equal to 368 ducats, 18 grossi. Will your Serenity be pleased to refund the same to the Magnificents Carlo, Leone and Alfonso Strozzi in the terms of letters of mine now in their hands ?

I think it advisable that your Serenity should give orders to pay the post from Venice to Antwerp, which would relieve me of a great weight. Here on my side I am not remiss in the public service, as I have made a new contract with the Postmaster with a gain of a *real* for every ounce.

I would observe that from the time I left your Serenity, no sum of money has ever been voted to me in anticipation to meet your Serenity's out-goings.

London, 14th July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

14. 1609, 8th February, London.

Due by the Illustrious and Most Excellent M. Antonio Corraro, Ambassador of Venice, for letters sent from Venice to London and *vice-versa* from 1st November, 1608, up to to-day, number 2172 - - - - - - - -	£261	8*s.*	
for letters from Venice to Antwerp, namely the mail of the 13th, 19th and 20th February and the 5th March - - - - - - -	£3	15*s.*	
for various letters from Holland, Flanders and elsewhere paid by us up to date - - -	£8	1*s.*	8*d.*
for despatches to order of Corraro, 28th November, 1608, and 2nd May, 1609 - - - -	£1	9*s.*	
	£274	13*s.*	8*d.*

I, Comin Cominlioli on behalf of Fedrigo Fedrighi, my uncle, have received from Giacomo Varnicoli, Majordomo of the Venetian Ambassador, £74 13*s.* 8*d.*, which with the £200 previously

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received make payment in full of the above account for all money disbursed for postage up to date on the order of his Illustrious Lordship - - - - - - - - - £274 13*s.* 8*d.*

Comin Cominlioli.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

15. I Mathieu de Quester, Postmaster in London to the King of Great Britain, acknowledge the receipt, from the Venetian Ambassador per his Majordomo, of thirty pounds and twopence sterling, and that for the postage of packets and letters addressed to the said Ambassador and coming from Antwerp, up to this date 4th July, *O.S.*

London; received the above £30 0*s.* 2*d.*

Mathieu de Quester.

[*French.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

16. 4th July, 1610.

Copy.

Received from the Ambassador of Venice for postage six pounds one shilling sterling per Messrs. Calendrini and Burlamachi, £6 1*s.* for Christian Bor.

[*Italian.*]

July 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

17. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of the United Provinces tells the Venetian Ambassador that the States would send a lieger to Venice as they have done to France and to England, provided they knew it would be acceptable. He pointed out that no alliance could be more sound, appropriate and advantageous, as the forces of both powers could always effect conjunction by sea, as they were respectively the most powerful in the ocean and in the Mediterranean, while their distance from each other excluded jealousy, suspicion or strained relations. (Non mi ha tacciuto che niuna amicitia può esser più sincera, propria o utile, che della V. Serenità et li Signori Stati, che possono con il mezo del mare congionger sempre le loro forze, essendo le più potenti nell' oceano et Mediterraneo, et per la lontananza de paesi non possono nascer gelosia, sospetti, dar o ricever disgusti.)

The Venetian Ambassador gave an evasive answer.

Paris, 15th July, 1610.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

July 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

18. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador came to see me yesterday and mentioned the case of the Jesuit (Baldwin) arrested at Heidelberg. He dwelt on his bad qualities, declaring that he had had a hand in all the

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plots against the King his Master. That while he was Ambassador at the Archduke's Court he caused Baldwin to be banished, and the Jesuit is now plotting some wickedness.

Has heard from a sure source that there have fallen into the hands of the said English Ambassador a packet of letters written by an Englishman in the Spanish Ambassador's house and addressed to a Lord suspected before this. (Ho saputa per via sicura che è capitato in mano dello stesso Ambasciatore d'Inghilterra un piego di lettere di uno Inglese che si trova in casa dello Ambasciatore di Spagna scritte ad un Milor altre volte sospetto.)

Paris, 15th July, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

July 17. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

19. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Arrival of the Count of Bucquoy, Ambassador Extraordinary of the Archduke Albert.

Paris, 17th July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 17. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

20. Giovanni Mocenigo, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

The Pope complains to the French Ambassador of the treatment of Morana (? Mariana) because of his book* in which he maintains that in certain cases it is lawful for subjects to slay their Sovreign. The Ambassador's answer quiets his Holiness. The General of the Jesuits attempts to exculpate the Society—to the French Ambassador—by promising that Jesuits will neither speak nor write about the the person of Sovreigns. The Spanish were displeased at this step and told the Jesuits that the King of Spain was at present engaged in expelling the Moriscoes, but that when he had done he would turn his attention to expelling the Jesuits.

Rome, 17th July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

21. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Prince of Condé declared that he had important considerations to bring forward. A Council was summoned. The Queen was present. The Prince advocated peace during the King's minority and urged that the affair of Cleves should be accommodated, which could be done by saving the Imperial prestige and yet securing the advantage of the "possessioners." If war broke out it would be very long, nor would it end with the acquisition of Juliers. Persisting, they would kindle a great, a lengthy, and a neighbouring war. He proposed to recall the succours. Many of the Council approved; others remained silent and it seemed that the Prince's

* "De rege et regis institutione, libri tres." Toledo, 1599. It was burned by order of the Parliament of Paris, 8th June, 1610.

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opinion would prevail, when Sully and Bouillon broke in with strong arguments in opposition. The weakness of Austria and Spain, they said, gave an opportunity for rendering illustrious the first action of the Queen. Such combination of Allies—the "Possessioners," the Protestants, England, Denmark, the United Provinces—would prove too powerful for Spain.

The Ambassador visited the Prince of Condé, who told him that he had passed through Venetian territory and was aware that the French Ambassador at Venice had sought to secure his arrest, that the Government had refused but had said that the Ambassador might try on his own account. This Foscarini denied.

Paris, 21st July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 27. Consiglio de' Dieci. *Parti Secrete.* Venetian Archives.

22. That to please the English Ambassador the rule as to a unanimous vote in a plenary sitting (*siano levate le strettezze di tutte le ballotte di questo Consiglio*) be suspended in the case of Gasparo Cumano, condemned to prison by the sentence just read, in order that the commutation of that sentence, as sought by the said Ambassador, may be voted on a majority of four-fifths only.

Ayes	4.	Ayes	3.	
Noes	4.	Noes	5.	Defeated.
Neutral	1.	Neutral	1.	

[*Italian.*]

July 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

23. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the occasion of the recent proclamation against Catholics, the Spanish Ambassador has made representations to the Earl of Salisbury that it is not to his Majesty's interests to drive these people to despair. Lord Salisbury took time to reply, and soon after, when the Archbishop of Canterbury was complaining to the King that his most intimate Councillors never came to Communion, which is here called the Supper, his Excellency entered on the subject and made vigorous representations in favour of a milder treatment of the Catholics. That will be of great help. Lord Salisbury then told the Ambassador that he would be informed of what had passed with the King, and begged that this might serve for an answer, meaning to hint that the Spanish have excellent means for knowing what takes place in the Councils of the King.

The Ambassador of Wirtemberg arrived last week, and as I learn he bears with him the conclusion of a defensive league signed by the King, in which he binds himself to help the Protestant Princes of the Union with a third more men than they are bound to furnish to him should he need them.

I also hear that the States of the United Provinces will not enter on any special new capitulations; they will abide by the old, which have been very loosely observed. It causes great displeasure that the Queen of France has refused to confirm the convention agreed to by her

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husband of glorious memory. They complain of the coldness and hesitation in the despatch of succours to Cleves, and detest the divisions in the Council. A general and reciprocal League between France, England, the Protestant Princes and the United Provinces is eagerly desired. This has been much discussed here, but I cannot see that at present the negotiations have any vigour; and may be nothing more will be said on the subject unless the events of the war cause a change.

I understand that the agreement arranged by the Ambassador of France with his Majesty will be signed on the arrival of an Ambassador Extraordinary, after Lord Wotton has discharged his mission to the new King. They are then to produce demonstration in virtue of which the United Provinces may be compelled to the restitution of the money which, the French affirm, was paid to them in the name of the English Crown, and for money lent to the Duke of Sully when he was Ambassador Extraordinary at this Court. On the other hand the Dutch insist that they have no obligation to repay.

London, 28th July, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

July 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

24. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The troops of the English and Dutch, destined for Cleves, were reviewed to the number of twelve thousand infantry and three thousand horse, upon the 14th inst., a league from the Dutch frontier between Emmerich and Arnhem. Besides Count Henry of Nassau there was with the army Count Maurice as well, invited by the Prince of Anhault, who offers him a command and the highest rank and honours. In the midst of arms they are vigorously treating for peace, which is desired by all but the soldiers.

About the proposal to deposit Juliers in the hands of a neutral till the final judgement has been pronounced, the German Princes and the States of the United Provinces find a difficulty in naming the depositary—they wish him to be neither Catholic nor French—and also in appointing a Court which they desire to be of great weight. They suspect that these proposals are intended to lay to sleep and render vain the parade of arms. As all claims to the States of Cleves and Juliers have to be weighed, they are less resolute in coming to an accord. But it is hoped that by the intervention of France and Great Britain a way will be found to conduct the matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

These last few days remittances have been sent to Holland to complete the three months' pay of the English troops.

That part of lower Germany is all full of arms. The cities are in great alarm and many of them keep their gates closed a large part of the day. The open country is unsafe because of the soldiery who lie in ambush; at every ford are guards. All these facts ought to tend to bring about an accord.

The Archdukes are diligently fortifying Rheinberg. A large number of sappers are employed. Flemish troops are disposed along the frontiers. All the same it is not thought that they intend

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to mix themselves up in this affair, though the Spaniards do not omit to create suspicion by the publication of rumours with a view to assisting the Emperor in the settlement.

The display of arms in the Milanese has stirred the curiosity of the Court, especially as the Spanish talk of fifty-six thousand men, thanks to the assistance and the offers of Parma, Modena, and Urbino. But there is no one here who believes that there is any other intent than to compel the Duke of Savoy to draw to their side and to frighten him so much that he will never dream of any attempt against the state of Milan, and this the Spanish Ambassador has confirmed with his own lips. Such a resolution of the Duke would be very distasteful here, but they pretend to believe that the Princes of Italy will not fail to support the designs and, if need be, the fortunes of his Highness, and it seems that they cannot abandon the French party without injury to their reputation.

Le Sieur left last week in a royal pinnace for Lübeck and Hamburg to gather exact information about the changes that have taken place in respect to commerce. He is to go straight on to the Imperial Court. Later news shows that the steps taken were not so rigorous as reported. The greatest evil was the suspension of credits. Here, however, they maintain the sequestration of all the merchandise and papers, though they do not amount to very much.

A few days ago Lady Arabella concluded her marriage with the second son of the son of the Earl of Hertford (*con il secondo genito del figliolo del Conte di Arfort.*), in spite of the King's injunction to abstain. Both were summoned before the Council. The young man who was brought in first denied the fact; she, however, freely confessed it and excused the denial of her husband on the score of fear. She endeavoured to demonstrate that neither by laws Divine nor by human laws could she be prevented. But the King took offence and committed her to the custody of a gentleman who lives a short way out of the City, and her husband was sent to the Tower.* A law forbidding under pain of *læsa Majestas* and rebellion, the descendants of blood-royal to intermarry without leave, is a serious injury to her case. This law was passed to meet the case of the Earl of Hertford, grandfather of the youth, whose father was secretly born in the Tower; and for this reason they say Lady Arabella has been separated from her husband; rumour says she will not be so easily set free. *If she were with child she would, perhaps, have a greater advantage, as the hope of hindering the succession would cease* (*se si scoprisse gravida haverebbe forse maggior vantagio cessando la speranza d'impedir la successione*).

To-day an Ambassador from King Charles of Sweden arrived at Court. As yet we do not know his business; some say it is to offer the daughter of the King to the Prince. That will not be so easy to arrange.

The impositions abolished by the King are a tax on taverns which brought in a great revenue, and another on coal, amounting to

* *See* Nichol's *op. cit.* II, 363, "the lady a close prisoner at Sir Thomas Parry's house at Lambeth."

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about four Venetian soldi the sack.* He further promises that the tax on sweet wines, among these are included the muscat of Crete, shall be withdrawn on the death of the Admiral, who at present enjoys it. He has submitted to the Judges another tax on woollen cloth payable to the measurers and apprizers†; this tax was conceded to the Duke of Lennox, and farmed out by him for twenty-four thousand ducats a year. On the other hand there has been conceded to his Majesty a subsidy and a fifteenth, which means between five and six hundred thousand ducats. It was intended to adjourn Parliament to-morrow till the month of October, but yesterday it was prolonged for three days more in the hope of reaching an accord on the question of wardships and other grievances, for the redress of which I hear that eight hundred thousand ducats a year have been promised in perpetuity. Hardly anything remains except to find the means of raising this money. And if in this brief space of time it is possible to induce Parliament to grant the King two or three other subsidies it is thought that his Majesty will adjourn Parliament to a very distant date, as he does not desire to have this torment during the winter.

It has been resolved that Bishops and other Ecclesiastics cannot enjoy more than one benefice at a time; this to increase their number and their efficiency, and because it is displeasing that they should be very rich.

I was informed by the solicitors of the imprisoned debtors for damages in the case of the "Reniera and Soderina," that their petition for leave to appeal was to be heard before Parliament on Friday, and that I was to send someone to explain the claims of the Venetian merchants. I expressed surprise, and refused to allow anyone to appear. I took adequate means to prevent the question being raised.

London, 28th July, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

July 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

25. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The graciousness it has pleased your Serenity to show me by electing my successor three months before the time, renders me doubly obliged both for the advantage to my house and health, and because I take it as a proof of continued benevolence towards me.

On this occasion I must recall to your Serenity that my predecessors were wont to spend 150 crowns on a present to the Master of the Ceremonies and something else to the Courtiers, from whom they had received useful services. If you will authorize me to

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. "[July 7.] Petition of the House of Commons to the King for redress of grievances, viz.: impositions upon merchandise and sea-coal . . . tax upon ale houses"; also "Sept 4. Warrant dormant for letters to Sir William Ryder, Sir John Trevor and others, Farmers of the imposition on sea-coals, to cease to levy 12*d.* per chaldron on coals transported from Sunderland and Blyth."

† That is the exactions on "sealing drapery."

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expend between 250 and 300 crowns, they will serve to leave this Court well disposed to you, and be especially useful to my successor; while it would open the way for me to discover what is taking place at present in these most important secret negotiations; for Envoys are frequently told what suits the teller rather than what fits the truth. This custom of receiving presents is very common here, not only in the case of Ministers, but of private gentlemen as well, and could not be abandoned without open hostility on the part of those accustomed to receive them, all the more so that the other Ambassadors here are lavish in this respect. I must add that I have employed on this service a much larger sum of my own money without entering it in the accounts.

London, 28th July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

July 31. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

26. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Reports that a French ship with slaves on board was fired at by an English *berton*.

Zante, last day of July, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 2. Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

27. Marc' Antonio Padavin, Venetian Secretary in Germany, to the Doge and Senate.

Orders from the General of the Jesuits in Rome to the Rector of the Jesuits here to send, as prisoner under good guard, the Scotch priest Hay (?) (*Ayo*), who spoke about Henry IV. The demand was made by the French Ambassador (de Breves). The order arrived, however, after the death of the priest from a brief and sudden infirmity attributed to the judgement of God.

Prague, 2nd August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 3. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

28. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

From conversation with the English Ambassador I gather that German affairs interest his master deeply. The Count of Bucquoy is of the same opinion, and we may therefore look for a closer alliance and the inclusion of some other Princes with notable results in the future.

Paris, 3rd August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

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Aug. 5.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

29. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Last week I went to visit the King at Wanstead, six miles from here, on his Majesty's own orders, because the amount of business he will find to do in London made him desire to anticipate my audience so as to see me more at his leisure.

I congratulated him on his excellent health, and wished him a pleasant Progress, which was going to begin, long life and perdition to those who spread false rumours about his health, rumours which, I observed, were wont to lengthen life, as the proverb has it. The King thanked me and said that such reports were to be taken as a good rather than as a bad omen, and he expressed his satisfaction that the Republic had shown so much interest in the matter.

I then returned thanks for the arrest of the pirate Tomkins and begged that his Majesty would give orders to the Admiralty Court to proceed promptly with the case. The King was pleased that I had observed his spontaneous action in this matter and said that he was out hunting when Tomkins presented a petition begging a favour, but he instantly recalled him to mind, though it was many years since he had any dealings with the man and caused him to be arrested, inspired by his constant desire to please the Republic. The King promised to recommend the case as desired.

I then went on to tell him about the flight of that man Gibbons who, two years ago, stole a cargo of wine belonging to Tizzoni, shipped from Candia to London. I said it was the fault of the jailers, who ought to be held liable to indemnify the owners of the wine, and I begged for their arrest. He said he felt I was right, that he would take information and issue orders; and in fact he has done so, for although the chief jailer, who is of good position, has been let out on bail, an under jailer is actually in prison. Finally, I complained that two of the sureties in the case of the "Reniera and Soderina," and those the two richest, were allowed to walk about the streets of London. The result of this was that as they felt no inconvenience they took no steps to give due satisfaction, and even went about suggesting that they would escape altogether, now by appealing from a sentence which was absolutely just and had been carefully weighed by his Majesty himself and by his Council, now by appearing before Parliament. I begged that, as they had been imprisoned at great trouble and cost by the interested parties, they should not be allowed out without the consent of the same. I added that some members of Parliament had given me to understand that other expedients would be taken to satisfy the interested parties. I said it made me blush to have to trouble his Majesty so often about the same case, but I was sure I would not find his benevolence exhausted. The King replied "Sure it is a great matter that this case cannot be finished; this is a grave abuse that anyone who can find security should be allowed to walk at large when they please. I will give orders to the Treasurer that they be shut up, and to Sir Julius Cæsar that he find some other way if possible."

I took the opportunity to inform his Majesty of the favour your Serenity had shewn me by electing my successor three months

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before the proper time. I said that this did not happen out of special regard for my health or my interests, but in order that the election might fall on the illustrious Ambassador Foscarini before he left France, as your Serenity desired to send an Envoy who had already been employed on other important missions. His Majesty expressed satisfaction and showed that he was aware that this was intended for his special honour.

The next day I heard that the debtors for the cargo of the "Soderina" had unexpectedly returned to Parliament, precisely at the moment I was with the King, and had obtained leave to appeal. Accordingly I went to Lord Salisbury, and after telling him what had passed between me and the King I complained of the success of this attempt; I pretended to be assured that it could not be confirmed in the Upper House and far less sanctioned by the King. The Earl of Salisbury gave me a most gracious answer. When the motion came before the Upper House Lord Salisbury opposed it and thus every hope was taken from the petitioners. Yesterday the Admiralty Judge informed me that upon orders received he would give instructions to keep the sureties shut up. As I was taking my leave of Lord Salisbury he stopped me and said that the King had ordered him to prefer a request, which had slipped his Majesty's memory, but which he had much at heart, the wish that your Serenity would take the Prince of Joinville into your service. I assured Lord Salisbury that his Majesty would always find your Serenity ready to meet his wishes, and if sometimes that result were not reached that must be attributed to very grave reasons. I promised to forward the request.

London, 5th August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 5. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

30. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Recent letters from General Cecil inform Lord Salisbury that the troops of his Majesty and of the United Provinces found themselves one day's march from Juliers, awaiting the decision of the Princes in Düsseldorf. They had called upon Rochembourg, Governor of Juliers, to surrender, or they would lay siege. The Governor took eight days in which to send an answer. During this time he awaited the arrival of succour under Colonel Franceschi, who with the troops of the Archduke was cantoned on the frontiers. In this way they spin out the time in the hope of settling the matter by negotiations. *With the same intent it is thought that the Spanish are spreading reports of armed intervention by them, in the hope, on the one hand, that dread of their arms may render an agreement more simple, or on the other that the threat of their intervention may encourage Saxony to interfere vigorously.*

On Sunday morning the Swedish Ambassador, accompanied by a Doctor assessor, had audience of the King in the Private Gallery. This audience had been delayed, as his Majesty only returned to London last Saturday. The Doctor made a Latin oration touching only on general topics and giving thanks for permission to raise troops.

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They then dined with the King and Prince. As far as I can gather the mission has asked for the King's interposition on some disputed boundaries between Sweden and Denmark, and about the pay of the English troops. The King dismissed them graciously. The agreement between King and Parliament that they are to give his Majesty eight hundred thousand ducats a year in lieu of certain prerogatives grows ever more and more popular both with the general public and with his Majesty. He has renounced not only Wardship and Purveyance, which in truth were incredible burdens upon this kingdom, but also many other sources whence he was able to gratify his servants. All these were points persistently demanded by Parliament in order to enable them to arrive at the amount to be assigned to . . . . , besides this they will impose a special burden upon all property at present subject to the law of Wardship, and further they will propose some new taxation. The clergy too have voted to his Majesty, for this one time, thirty per cent. on all their revenues, and with this concession they will prevent the King from giving his assent to the law against pluralities.

On Monday the King met Parliament to prorogue it till the middle of October. There was a general vote of thanks to his Majesty for the love he showed for his people and the care he took for the common weal. The King replied briefly expressing his thanks for the subsidy and the annual income of eight hundred thousand ducats voted him.

The day before yesterday, the King and Queen began their usual Progress. It will last six weeks. With them went the Prince, who besides taking his seat in Council, on his assumption of his Principality, desires also to handle some of the more important affairs, and he deals with them so strictly that he easily surmounts many difficulties, for everyone is afraid of falling into disgrace with him. I am told that in the recent disagreement in Parliament he produced the results by correcting and damping the ardour of various persons. (*Con loro è andato il Principe, il quale si come doppo la sua assuntione al Principato entra ordinariamente nel Consiglio di Stato, così ha gusto anco di maneggiar alcun negotio de' più importanti, et li tratta con rigor tale che supera facilmente molte difficoltà, temendo ogn' uno d'incontrar la sua disgratia; venendomi affermato, che nelle passate discordie del Parliamento habbia fatto buonissimi effetti corregendo et rafredando l'ardire di molti.*)

Baldwin, the Jesuit, who was arrested by the Count Palatine, to please his Majesty, is to be examined and tortured in the Palatinate. The King has sent a person on purpose to assist, and he takes with him various interrogatories * framed with a view to revealing the points that interest his Majesty.

Dudley Carleton has been named Ambassador to Venice† in place of Sir Henry Wotton, who after his many years' service at that post has repeatedly asked leave to go home. Carleton is a

* Winwood (*see* Mem. III. 210) on the other hand writes to Salisbury that he is sending Baldwin home along with interrogatories supplied by Boisisse on behalf of France.

† *See* Cal. S. P. Dom. Aug., 1610. Instructions given by Sir Henry Saville to Sir Dudley Carleton in reference to purchase of books and collation of MSS. relating to S. Chrysostom at Paris and in Italy.

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gentleman of intelligence in affairs and of most excellent manners (*buonissimo trattamento*), and, as I hear, he has promised Lord Wotton to set out, along with his wife, within a month; he will not, therefore, wait the King's return, but will go to find him on his Progress, to take his leave, and he will then be knighted. This week I have been suffering from a slight attack of fever, brought on by the cold when I went to audience of the King. I am still in bed, though, thank God, free of fever. This has given me the opportunity to purge, of which I had great need.

London, 5th August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 6. Minutes of the Senate, Mar. Venetian Archives.

31. The causes of the decline of commerce are two; one, the danger of pirates; two, the disadvantage at which our merchants are placed owing to their inability to make their contracts in the Levant in ready money, with the result that foreigners carry off the best of the goods;

Be it decreed that the Captain of the great galleys shall use all diligence to render the seas secure; for this purpose he shall form two squadrons, one to cruise in the waters of Zante, the Morea, Cerigo and Crete, the other from Cape Salamon, in Crete, towards Cyprus and Syria; fittings for these squadrons are to be sent to Candia and Canea;

Merchants shall be allowed to introduce and keep in the Mint until such time as they require them for the Levant, Spanish reals, dollars of good mints, and of Germany, but they may not give them currency in Venetian territory. Within fifteen days the *Cinque Savii alla Mercantia* shall present a report on the steps necessary for securing the navigation.

Ayes, 89.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 16. Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

32. Marc' Antonio Padavin, Venetian Secretary in Germany, to the Doge and Senate.

Le Sieur has arrived from England. I visited him at once. He said that after his audience he might have something to communicate to me, as his mission was not wholly concerned with the question of the Hanseatic towns, though that is what they say here. The Aulic Council finds that the Edict was published by three Ministers in conjunction, with a view to making money out of safe conducts, but they have resolved that until Le Sieur has had audience the Edict shall remain in force. He will not be admitted to audience so quickly.

Prague, 16th August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

33. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Mufti, speaking with the English Ambassador, said that they were aware that the Venetians were powerful at sea, but that they

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would attack them by Canissa and, if need be, send two hundred and even five hundred thousand men. The English Ambassador, who is much a friend to the Venetian, made suitable observations.

Dalle Vigne de Pera, 18th September, 1610.

[*Italian ; deciphered.*]

Aug. 19. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

34. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Swedish Ambassadors are still here waiting their dismissal. Besides the request that the King should intervene to arrange certain differences of great importance between Denmark and Sweden, the Ambassadors have also complained that his Majesty has favoured Poland by allowing much war material (*apprestamenti attinenti alla guerra*) to go to Riga. At the same time they have proposed a league with this Crown and mooted the subject of a marriage between the Princess and the Prince of Sweden, whose qualities they exalt and who, they say, was sworn in by the people as heir to the throne after the Embassy left Sweden. Towards these last two points of marriage and of league there is no smallest inclination here; *for the King thinks that he would thus involve himself in the continual difficulties between Sweden and Poland, while he could not promise himself any adequate assistance in return, and, moreover, he holds King Charles of small account as he is not considered the legitimate holder of the Swedish Crown. On the two previous points the King will lend his aid, both because he does not wish to see Poland aggrandized, and because he considers it to his prestige to appear as mediator, and almost as arbiter between these two Princes* (*perchè stima esser interesse della sua riputatione il mostrarsi mediatore e quasi arbitro tra questi Principi*).

The Swedish Ambassadors came to visit me and after compliments they begged me to recall to your Serenity the request, advanced some three years ago, by means of Signor Giovanni Battista Brisilese, for reciprocal trade between Venice and Sweden, to establish which the King of Sweden offers many privileges to Venetian merchants. They pointed out that from Sweden Venetians could readily obtain copper, iron, timber for ship building. I replied with all courtesy; begged to be excused, as my indisposition had prevented me from seeing them sooner, and promised to forward their remarks.

Their Majesties continue their Progress. On Sunday last the Lords of the Council joined the King sixty miles from London to keep the anniversary of the Gowrie plot.*

Valerio the courier has brought letters from the Grand Duke of Tuscany to their Majesties and to the Prince to announce the birth of a son. The King gave the messenger a handsome present. I am assured that an Ambassador will be sent to Florence to return Malaspina's and Salviati's missions and to discuss the claims about the ships, but it has been delayed so long that I doubt it.

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. "The 5th of August has passed with mirth and an excellent sermon from the Bishop of Ely at Holdenby; his text was 'Touch not mine anointed.'" Nichols *op. cit.* II. 364.

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The troops of the two Princes, Brandenburg and Neuburg, along with English and Dutch auxiliaries are under Juliers. The enterprise is conducted by Count Maurice. On the 10th of this month they were drawn so close up to that side of the city which is not fortified, but protected by the castle, that voices from the camp could be heard in the castle. Of three ravelins they had captured the largest, a loss attributed to the carelessness of the Governor. On their approach two powder waggons were fired and killed several gentlemen, jeopardizing Count Maurice himself. The French were far off. The besieged fired on enemy; one of the shots killed General Cecil's horse under him, while a musket shot grazed the skin of M. de Bethune's head. It is generally thought that the place cannot hold out long, and so the Spaniards themselves say. All the same it is well fortified and garrisoned by seasoned troops, who have had time to provision the city. If their spirits were kept up by those Princes to whom they look for reward and assistance, they might hold out yet a while.

The capture of the place is eagerly desired here. They are pleased that the Archduke Albert's proposal to the Queen of France, to put M. de Bassompierre into Juliers until judgement was issued, arrived too late; and they think that the capture of the place will end the war. All the same the cities of Aix-la-Chapelle and Cologne are in terror and alarm lest, in the case of a success, the victorious army should march on them; they are fortifying and arming. Cologne is virtually besieged, for no grain is allowed to enter. It has been asked to supply the French army gratis, to allow the reformed religion in one of its Churches, and to pay down fifty thousand ducats in ready money. But it refused to comply with these last two demands, though it promised to furnish the French camp out of its own funds. Cologne has enrolled three thousand foot and five hundred horse, in addition to the two thousand foot already raised, and has called out eight thousand of its unmarried citizens fit for service.

The Spanish troops at the frontiers gave no signs of moving. The Dutch suspected that, in order to create a diversion, they might attack Culem, a place at present in possession of the Dutch, which once belonged to the Duchy of Cleves, and not included in the truce.

The Archdukes are diligently fortifying Rheinberg; the place is important as a menace to the Dutch in Friesland and to the Germans in Cleves.

Lord Wotton, Ambassador designate to France, intends to discharge his mission before the King's Coronation, at which he could not, on account of his creed, be present. His Excellency will take with him the terms of the alliance between these two Crowns, to be sworn to by his Most Christian Majesty. The terms are the same as those which existed between King Charles and Queen Elizabeth.

The negotiations about the debt to the English Crown meet with some difficulty on account of the amount assigned to the United Provinces, who continue to resist repayment. On this point the French Ambassador sent his secretary to Paris some days ago, and he is expected back with the answer; this is all that delays Lord Wotton's mission; he is ready to set out.

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The Government have seized fifty thousand ducats in coin which were being smuggled into Flanders. No one has claimed them for fear of the fine, which amounts to the same sum, to be paid into the Treasury.

Dudley Carleton, Ambassador designate to your Serenity, has been to see me. He said he was glad to go on this mission because of the excellent understanding between the two nations. Experience shows him to be no less competent than he was represented to be. Your Serenity will find him full of admirable qualities. To-morrow he will go to the Court, which is sixty miles away, and he assures me that in four weeks' time he will set out via France.*

Chevalier Ludovic Petrucci, who has been in your Serenity's service as sergeant at Spinalonga, has arrived. From a talk with him I gathered that he had come here partly because of the Inquisition—I understand that he was four years and a half prisoner of the Holy office in Padua—and partly because enemies in Germany rendered his life insecure. He has always called himself soldier and servant of your Serenity. He comes newly from service with Neuburg. He now says he wishes to print a manifesto touching certain misfortunes that befell him in Prague, and a song composed in answer to another song in Venetian dialect, in which he defends the Republic in the matter of the late differences with the Pope. He says his enemies take occasion from this song to persecute him. Finally he begged me to forward letters to the Nuncio, the Florentine Ambassador and other persons at the Imperial Court. I said that it was not my business to receive and forward letters addressed to Envoys of other Princes, and forbade him to print any songs or anything else touching the Serene Republic, or to name in any way whatsoever persons who govern the Republic or represent it; nor for his own purposes to use the name of the Republic, and this he promised. I seem to divine in him a restless spirit, full of extravagant ideas. He professes himself an ardent Catholic; but I know not what need might bring him to.

London, 19th August, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Aug. 21
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives

35. Giovanni Mocenigo, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

The Pope complains to the French Ambassador of the defensive alliance between France and England; the Ambassador said that nothing had been done except to confirm what has been settled with the late King.

Rome, 21st August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Nichols, *op. cit.* II. 364. Carleton was knighted at this audience.

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Aug. 24.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

36. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Baron My Lord Wotton is expected here in a few days as Ambassador Extraordinary; he will be lodged at the Royal charges.

Paris, 24th August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 25.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

37. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

As I am well aware of the importance of the French Vice-Consul in Syria, who has dealt so ill with your Serenity's subjects, and recognising the troubles that might arise if he continued in his post, I have done all I could to effect his removal. I have obtained an order for the recall of the Vice-Consul and instructions for the Consul himself to take over the place. I have also obtained instructions to the Consul to punish the Vice-Consul and to restore the bales of cloth. I have also secured instructions to the Consul to act in conjunction with the Venetian Consul and merchants, always provided that the English Consul stands in with them along with all his merchants. I put in this proviso about the English Consul as I am well aware of the importance your Serenity attaches to joint action among all three Consuls. As I hold that the King of England's express orders are necessary, I have secured the assistance of M. de la Boderie. In all this I have succeeded, and to-day I have received Villeroy's solemn promise given me at Conflans. To-morrow I will write to Correr. I have endeavoured to interest the French Consul and to persuade him to act with the Consul Sagredo.

I have been considering the grave inconveniences which arise from the depredations of the pirates, owing to which the trade of Venice has shrunk so seriously; the dues have fallen off and so many of your Excellencies have suffered. I have touched on the subject with several of the Ministers, and especially with Villeroy and the Duke of Guise, Governor of Provence, with whom I am on good terms, and after pointing out the large number of ships which the Republic keeps afloat in order to put down the piracy, I suggested that the French should assume a part in the work and should prevent the Barbary pirates from taking the sea. I think I have convinced Guise, who will persuade the Merchants of Marseilles to take a share in the cost of arming six or eight great galleons.

Paris, 25 August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

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Aug. 28.
Collegio, Lettere, Venetian Archives.

38. To the Captain Nani at Malamocco.

Approving of what he had done in the matter of searching the English *berton* found in the Valle di Buora behind Rovigno,* and ordering him to consign the prisoners to the bearer.

Ayes 22.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 29.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

39. Girolamo Soranzo and Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassadors in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

Announces the arrival in Lisbon of an Ambassador from Persia; he comes with two hundred bales of silk which are sent by way of experiment to see whether it is better to send the silk via Portugal or by the old route through the Levant. One of the chief incentives to the change was a desire to deprive the Turk of his customs dues. Silk pays three heavy duties in Turkish territory, and only one here.

Madrid, 29th August, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 30.
Collegio, Lettere, Venetian Archives.

40. To the Captain Nani at Malamocco.

Having discovered that the crew taken out of the English vessel which you found at Rovigno are honest men, we have set them free to return to their ship and to go about their business. You are to restore to them their boat and tackle, and if you meet them again you are to leave them alone.

Ayes 16.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 2.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

41. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Sunday Lord Salisbury and other Lords of the Council met at the house of the French Ambassador, where the terms of the Alliance between the two Crowns were settled. They deal with three main points, one relates to commerce, one to piracy, and one to mutual aid with a definite number of troops in case of need. The King of France promises to pay, within the two following years two hundred thousand crowns in gold on account for the money lent to King Henry IV., and for the remainder, which has been the cause of so many missions to France and so long a delay in concluding the treaty, they are content that nothing should be specified. The United Provinces, however, show themselves resolved not to submit to any part of this payment, so that that debt will

* In Istria.

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fall on his Most Christian Majesty, and he will be pressed for it as soon as he has paid the two hundred thousand crowns. It is possible that then another arrangement may be made, as the French claim should be greatly reduced. The terms of this treaty have been handed to Lord Wotton, who has, to-day, set out on his extraordinary mission.

The Swedish Ambassadors sought an alliance between England and Sweden against the Poles, but met with a flat refusal, his Majesty declaring that though he would not assist Poland neither would he show himself hostile. The Swedes then asked to be admitted to the confederation between France, Germany, and Holland, and to this it was answered that nothing existed save separate private agreements between State and State. They were assured of the King's good will and so departed for Holland, well content, and with presents worth one thousand crowns in silver gilt for each one of them; nor are they without hopes of concluding an alliance with the United Provinces, into which this King may be induced to enter. They were also quite satisfied by the civil words spoken as regards the marriage of the Princess; but their Majesties are inclined to no one so much as to the Prince Palatine, who is thought to be a youth of remarkable qualities. The Spanish Ambassador also is talking about marriage and is thought to be hinting at the King of Hungary; but he won't easily find any to lend credence, as he is thought to be merely seeking to increase his popularity and credit at this Court.

From letters intercepted between the besieged in Juliers and the Archduke Leopold the German Princes have discovered that there is a dearth of powder and of salt in that city, and that succour was urgently demanded; this, if it is true, is laid to the charge of the persons entrusted with furnishing the place, which had been expecting the siege for a whole year previously. The garrison defends itself bravely, and has repulsed the enemy who delivered an assault, nor do they omit to make valorous sorties. They harass the enemy's camp with their artillery, a shot from which killed the Marshal Sinischi, a Hungarian, Governor of Grave, who was held in high esteem in the United Provinces. In fact the enterprise turns out to be more difficult than they imagined. In the besieging army there is a certain discord which the arrival of the French was expected to increase; there are three commanders present and the natural diversity and antipathy of various races. Archduke Albert has caused all his forces to move on Rheinberg, and has paid the troops he enrolled these last few months. The numbers are greater than can be required for the safety of Rheinberg; perhaps they are intended to sustain the courage of the besieged, or to alarm the enemy, and to prevent them from thinking of other enterprises after the capture of Juliers.

I am informed from Brussels that on the 17th of last month *a leading Spaniard reached that city from Milan. His mission was to raise petarders and miners, and to collect horses and artillery. My informant is a soldier of some intelligence, though without much support at Court, so he may easily have fallen into error, especially as he wrote only one day after the Spaniard's arrival.*

Two ships on their way from Lisbon to Hamburg with sugar have been brought into the river, and another with salt. They will

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not hesitate to arrest every ship in which the Hansa has an interest until the Imperial orders forbidding trade with the English are withdrawn. The interested parties protest and declare that the ancient ordinance was called to light without the Emperor's knowledge by officers who were stirred up by Lübeck, which has always had a rivalry with England; they affirm that the Hamburgers had no hand in evoking the order nor in giving it effect. But all these pleas are not sufficient to secure the liberation of the ships. They are waiting to hear the result of the mission entrusted to the Envoy (Le Sieur) sent to Germany; who has not yet reached Court.

The royal Progress will terminate in two weeks, and as I have occasion to go in that direction to see some academies* (*accademie*) of this kingdom, much beloved by the King, I intend to follow the Court for a few days. At this time the city is almost entirely empty, most of the Ministers having retired to their houses.

I went some days ago to visit the Princess and the Duke of York at Richmond and Kew. They omitted no expressions of regard for your Serenity. The Duke made enquiries as to your Serenity's health, the prosperity of the Republic, the preparations for war in the Duchy of Milan, the negotiations of the Duke of Savoy and the war in Cleves. I showed pleasure that in his youthful years he should thus study war. It pleased these Princes two days ago to invite my son to join them in the chase, and they welcomed him and my nephew, Messer Pietro Loredano, most cordially, keeping them overnight and yesterday giving them a part of the bag.

Two *tartane* have arrived from Virginia. They were built out there by the crew of a ship which was lost in a storm. They announce the safe arrival of Lord de la Warr, sent out as Governor, and that all is quiet. This news is very welcome here, where they have always been anxious about the success of the enterprise.

At Rotterdam (*Retordan*) a privateer has been arrested. She put into that port in order to unlade some rich merchandize. Her captain is an Englishman, and is in England, and they are in diligent pursuit of him.

The damage these villains do grows greater day by day, and is almost insupportable. The merchants are planning a remedy, and have informed me that they wish to wait on me to invite the Venetians to join them, the French, and the Dutch, in destroying the pirates. If they do come I will find out what they propose, and will confine myself to general terms in my reply.

London, 2nd September, 1660

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Sept. 4. Minutes of the Senate. Secrete. Venetian Archives.

42. That the English Ambassador be invited to attend in the Cabinet and hear what follows:

"My Lord Ambassador, after the Senate gave the necessary orders in reply to your petition in the matter of the ship 'Corsaletta,' which were the very most that it was possible to give, and after an exhaustive

* The Ambassador intended to visit Oxford.

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handling of the case in the Cabinet, where our thrice beloved Noble, Nicolo Sagredo, had and still has a seat, and after he had rendered the fullest information, which he was able to do as he was Governor of Crete at the time of the incident, and after reading articles of justification—it is absolutely clear that neither we nor our officers have been guilty of neglect, and we believed that your Lordship and the interested parties had admitted the justice of our position. But seeing that your Lordship has made fresh complaints and handed in letters from his Majesty and asked for a reply, we think it desirable to rehearse the series of events and then to make such comments as your Lordship's native intelligence will for itself deduce from the narrative."

The communication proceeds to relate the facts, and states that, as the master of the ship did not comply with the orders agreed on by the Convention, but resisted and compelled the commander of the great galleys to employ force, the ship was justly seized. On the 28th September, 1607, at the instance of the Ambassador, orders were issued to the commander of the galleys that he was to ignore the infringement of the Convention and if the ship really proved a merchantman and not a privateer he was to set her at liberty. In the month of October the Ambassador again raised the question on special orders from his Majesty, who gave his assurance that the ship was a trader and not a privateer, and requested that the previous orders should be renewed without the proviso that her true character should be first established. On the 3rd November we despatched fresh letters to the captain of the galleys ordering him to release the ship at once and to let her pursue her voyage, as we were willing to accept his Majesty's word without taking any further account of the depositions in the inquiry. This second order was, like the first, addressed to the commander of the great galleys, but neither reached their destination, owing either to the commander's change of place or to some accident of sea or pirates which may have befallen the vessel that took the orders, for the journey is a long one from Venice to Crete. Your Lordship then returned on April 30th, 1608, and informed us that the ship was still detained in the port of Canea, and requested fresh orders to the Governor General of Crete. We wrote on the 2nd May giving orders that the Governor was to restore both ship and cargo to the agents of the interested parties named by your Lordship and to whom these orders were entrusted in duplicate. The Governor General on the receipt of these orders, the first addressed to him, went from Candia to Canea and found the ship half sunk in the harbour; he opened the warehouse in the presence of the Agent, and there found the entire cargo, not a thing missing, but part of it damaged, partly owing to the nature of the goods, easily spoiled, partly owing to the length of time they had been lying in the warehouse. The Governor General was ready to make restitution, but the Agent while accepting the sound goods refused to accept the damaged, as he did not wish to prejudice the question of insurance in England. Your Lordship will see that in the foregoing relation there are three points to observe: first, that the arrest of the ship was justified by the failure of her captain to do his duty; second, that the Senate complied with every request of your Lordship in order to oblige his Majesty; third, that our officer

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was ready to make consignment of everything in obedience to our orders, and consignment would have taken place had not the Agent refused a part.

As to your Lordship's contention that the Senate had ordered restitution in the same state as at time of capture, we can not see that the Senate so expressed itself; it could not give such an order. Three times has the Senate interfered in this matter; and the order to restore all implied all in its actual condition. If the interested parties complain that the goods deteriorated owing to the non-arrival of the first order, the answer is that no order other than that of the 2nd of May reached the Governor General; the other orders were addressed to the commander of the great galleys, hence the confusion in the minds of the interested. These first orders were never received, and if in the interval the goods deteriorated nothing can be done, for it is beyond human power to make damaged goods sound any more than it is possible to cancel the fact of the capture. It would have been better that it should not have happened and that the Agent should have received the whole cargo in its actual state, not a part only; but the interested parties should in justice submit to what is fair and honest, instead of blaming our want of good will or our officers, and should accept restitution of what remains of the goods, which will at once be made to them, for on our side nothing more can or ought to be done.

This is what we have to say to your Lordship in reply to your requests and in termination of the incident. The same answer will be given by our Ambassador in England to his Majesty, to whom we have written in reply to the two letters from him handed to us by your Lordship. We trust our representations, especially if brought to his notice with your Lordship's wonted prudence, will prove acceptable, and that he will be satisfied by all that we have been able to do in the matter, for we shall never fail on every occasion to prove to him our excellent disposition towards him.

Ayes 160.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 4. Minutes of the Senate, Secrete. Venetian Archives.

43. To the King of Great Britain.

We have delayed to reply to your Majesty's letters about the "Corsaletta" in order that we might send full information as to the true state of the case and show that the interested parties ought to be satisfied with the resolution taken both out of justice and to please your Majesty. Your Majesty is well aware that owing to the fact that *bertons* and other privateering craft infest those waters we have been obliged to arm and maintain our great galleys there for the protection of our subjects. These great galleys fell in with the "Corsaletta," and, according to the usage of the sea, they wished to search her. Her commander, in place of conforming to your Majesty's orders on this head, offered resistance, and drove the commander of the galleys to take the steps he did. The fault, therefore, lies at the door of the Corsaletta's

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captain. Nevertheless, on the first representations of your Ambassador we immediately gave orders to the commander of the great galleys that if the ship were really a merchantman and not a privateer he was to let her go. Then, when your Ambassador gave us your Majesty's word that the ship was a merchantman and not a privateer, to oblige your Majesty, and on your simple word, we removed the condition contained in the first order and instructed our officer to set the ship free absolutely. Neither of these orders reached the commander of the galleys. We then, on your Ambassador's request, wrote to the Governor General of Crete to carry out the orders already sent to the commander of the galleys, who had taken the ship into Canea. These orders we gave to the interested parties. The Governor obeyed at once, but the Agent of the owners refused to receive a part of the goods that were damaged, alleging his unwillingness to compromise himself with the insurance in London, but saying nothing against our officer. It was the Agent's fault, therefore, that the goods remained at Canea, and they will be freely consigned on demand. Your Majesty will gather from this how groundless is the claim to complain, for we at once issued the only possible orders and our officers were ready to carry them out. If the goods have suffered this is due partly to the action of the Agent, partly to the long time they lay in the warehouse, and partly to the nature of the goods themselves, as they are easily liable to deterioration. We trust your Majesty in your singular wisdom and goodness will rest satisfied, for we have done all that could be done, as will be set forth more fully by your Majesty's Ambassador and by our Ambassador, Correr.

Ayes 160.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 4.
Collegio, Lettere. Venetian Archives.

44. To the Ambassador in England.

The Ambassador of his Majesty has been three times to the Cabinet on the subject of the "Corsaletta," demanding damages for the spoilt cargo. We forward the answer drawn up by the Senate. You are to seek audience and present the accompanying letter; you will dwell upon the case in the sense of this answer and letter, pointing out the error of the captain in failing to follow out his Majesty's orders, and the confusion caused by the Agent of the owners, and observing to his Majesty that it is impossible that perishable goods can be restored in their primitive condition. We are ready to restore in actual condition at any moment they may select.

You will thank his Majesty for the arrest of Tomkins the pirate.

Ayes 160.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

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1610.
Sept. 4.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

45. To the GOVERNOR-GENERAL in the KINGDOM OF CRETE.

Our beloved Nicolo Sagredo, your predecessor, at his departure left in the port of Canea the ship "Corsaletta," which had been seized by the captain of the great galleys. She is in a very bad state. We do not know if she has been sold and sent to lade with corn. We have no information about this, and we charge you to advise us at once what has happened to the said ship, whether she is still in the port of Canea in her original condition, or whether she has been sold, to whom, at what price, and where the money is and the ship herself is and all particulars worthy of our knowledge. This news you will send us in double and triple copy.

Ayes 22.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 6.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

46. The English Ambassador having heard the resolution of the Senate passed on the 4th inst. spoke as follows:—

"I understand that this is the reply of the Senate, and I too consider the question closed, nor have I aught to add; your Serenity is doubtless right, though as your information is taken from your side and ours from ours, some doubt might still remain. The captain of the ship has deposed on oath that he fulfilled his obligations under the Convention; he had no cause to fear or to fly a friend, for his ship was a merchantman, nor had he contraband on board, for the currants were shipped in a Turkish port. However, as I observe in the preamble to the answer, this is considered as a definite resolution, nor can I reply; I will represent the matter to his Majesty as your Serenity desires me, and I will do it in the best manner possible so that the friendship between the two States may continue as heretofore. It is true that I am very pleased to hear that your Serenity has charged your Ambassador with a like mission, for this relieves me of a large part of the burden. I shall refer to the Ambassador's statement of the case, and will beg his Majesty to hear him with his usual benignity. I will only beg your Serenity to leave the door open for the owners to receive at another time some favour in recompense for the losses they have sustained, losses that, had they been persons of less substance, would have caused them to become bankrupt."

The Doge replied that they had never doubted but that the Ambassador would be satisfied. Thanks him for his promise to make favourable representations. Where possible will do all they can to favour the owners; and will issue orders to the great galleys to use all courtesy towards ships belonging to his Majesty's subjects.

The Ambassador went on to recommend the Prince de Joinville. The reason for this renewed request is a dialogue which took place between the King and the Prince when the latter was in England some months ago. Lord Salisbury had repeated the dialogue as follows: "My cousin," said his Majesty to the Prince, "thou speakest much of thy great zeal, of thy desire to serve the Signory, tell me, should they have need of thee in war or in other occasions, would'st thou keep thy promise and maintain thy word of honour that thou

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hast pledged to them? for if so I bind myself to interpose my earnest representations on thy behalf." The Prince laid his hand on his breast and replied that he would never fail to keep his word, and added that if nothing else bound him his Majesty's intercession would. The King accordingly has ordered the Ambassador to renew the request. The Prince is the finest sword in the world. It is true that Italy enjoys just now a profound peace, but a fungus grows in a night.

The Doge replied that they were in no need of assistance at present, but would hold all offers as a precious deposit of friendship. The *Savii* will take the matter into consideration.

The Ambassador passed on to another point, of a delicate nature; that was the case of Giovanni de Paula, a Luchese of honourable family, but now in the galleys in absolute destitution. He had come out of France and at Verona speaking frankly, after the manner of soldiers, he had let fall some phrases about the abuses of Rome. He was accused and arrested by the Inquisition. After cruel tortures he was condemned to seven years in the galleys and handed to the secular arm. It does not appear from the trial that he is "relapsed," nor is it the usage of the Inquisition to punish corporeally those who are not "relapsed." The Ambassador begged that this poor fellow, now in the power of the secular arm and in his Serenity's hands, should be set at liberty, all the more as he is quite unfit for the oar. He said he hoped to be gratified in this his humble petition when he recalled to mind that in England—and it was well that the Pope should know it—the King, out of regard for the Republic, had set at liberty a priest who was a prisoner for the crime of *læsa Majestas* in the first degree.* If the King freed a criminal guilty of so grave an offence merely out of regard for the Republic, he thought he had a right to promise himself the liberation of this man, whose case was similar though not the same. The Ambassador then went on to say that when Jesuit priests and their followers go to England they avail themselves of the apparently palliative plea that they are spreading their religion, but they watch the bent of mind and in their private discussions they begin to attack the Government in the person of the King and the Council and seek to undermine obedience. "We on the other hand," said the Ambassador, "hold as the first article of our religion, that authority, that Sovereign which God has set over the subject, and the divinity that emanates from the Prince; obedience is due even to bad Princes; one must pray for good ones and endure bad." Returning to the case of the Luchese he said that the tortures inflicted on this poor gentleman were sufficient to wipe out any due of punishment he might have merited for any loose or scandalous word he might have spoken after the manner of a man-at-arms. He was quite unfit for the oar, and so it was all the more proper that he should be set at liberty and sent away, so as to remove along with him the scandal, especially as it was the use of the ecclesiastical arm in consigning a prisoner to the secular arm to pray that he be treated compassionately.

The Ambassador added that this case gave him an opportunity to discharge his conscience by saying a few words on a case which

* Wotton is referring to the case of the Flemish priest at the Venetian Embassy. *See* Cal. S.P. Ven. 1609. Aug. 6.

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had occurred in Rome a month or so past, the case of that unhappy and insignificant fra Fulgentio, who was strangled and burned. He added, "I have been informed from a sure quarter that the Pope availed himself of my person, as an instrument to procure Fulgentio's death. This I know for certain, for there is in my house at this moment a young Englishman who has been a pupil of the Jesuits in Rome, and who was present in St. Peter's at the reading of the trial. This youth assures me that in the charge it was stated that Fulgentio had dealings and understandings with Envoys of heretical Sovereigns, and with such Sovereigns, and especially with the King of Great Britain by means of me. I swear upon my soul and by my faith and on my honour as a gentleman that I never had dealings nor any kind of business with fra Fulgentio, neither by letter nor by any other channel after he left this city; the charges in the trial and sentence are a lie, as express and manifest a falsehood as any falsehood can be, and like the others of the Curia Romana. This testimony I have borne before your Serenity for the discharge of my conscience; for the Romans by dragging me into the case appear to have desired to fasten the scandal on this most Serene Signory. (*Ho presentito per via certa, et sicura, che il Papa si sia valso della persona mia per instrumento della sua morte, et questo lo so di certo, perchè si trova qui al presente in casa mia un giovane Inglese che è stato scolare dei Gesuiti in Roma, et si trovò presente nella chiesa di San Pietro alla lettura del processo; et questo giovane mi ha rifferto, che nel processo si conteneva, che fra Fulgentio havesse havuto prattica et intelligentia con Ministri de Principi heretici, et con Principi tali, et specialmente con il Rè della Gran Brettagna con il mezzo mio. Io giuro sopra la l'anima, et sopra la fede mia, et in parola di huomo da bene di non haver haruto mai prattica, ne trattatione alcuna con fra Fulgentio, ne con lettere ne con altri mezzi doppoi che egli parti di questa città, et quello ch'è stato letto in quel processo et sententia è una buggia, et una falsità manifesta, et espressa, come qual si voglia cosa che falsa sia et come tutte le altre della Corte di Roma. Et io ho voluto far questo testificato alla Serenità vostra per scarico della conscientia mia, perchè con haver voluto quei di Roma metter qui di mezzo la persona mia, è parso ch' habbiano voluto addossar il scandalo a questa Serenissima Signoria.*) In all the years I have served your Serenity it is known how I have borne myself in the matter of ceremonies and religion, without giving rise to the slightest scandal, living with the greatest modesty, as indeed is my bounden duty."

The Doge replied that, as to the first point, the case of the young man condemned by the Inquisition, as the Inquisition condemned him to the galleys it may rest with the Inquisition to recognise his inability to serve the oar. However, the Cabinet will take information and will do its best, giving weight to the Ambassador's recommendation. As to fra Fulgentio he lived in esteem in Venice; he chose to go to Rome tempted by hopes that turned out ill. He alone is to blame for his misfortune; the Government had nothing whatever to do with it. As to the charges against the Ambassador his protests are superfluous, for his modesty and goodness are quite well known by experience.

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The Ambassador went on, "I will now conclude with a personal matter most distasteful to me. It has pleased his Majesty to recall me. He has appointed in my place a gentleman of most honourable birth, whose ability will make up for my defects. This gentleman is Sir Dudley Carleton; he is highly appreciated by the King and Council and his qualities procured for him the Secretaryship in Ireland, a post of great importance. He will come with a goodly company, for he brings his wife and family." Here he expressed his regret at the remark he sometimes heard that England was in the wilds, while Paris was hard by; and yet from Paris to England is only three days; but he rejoiced at the coming of this lady for she would show herself as spirited as any lady of France and would prove that England was not in the wilds, and by her example she may induce more of these gentlemen to visit England than has hitherto been the case.

The Doge replied in terms complimentary to the Ambassador and asked if he was leaving at once. The Ambassador replied that he would not take his departure till his successor arrived.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 7. Minutes of the Senate. Mar. Venetian Archives.

47. Order to pay to the representatives of Antonio Foscarini, Ambassador elect to England, eight hundred ducats of gold in gold, being four months' anticipated salary: also one thousand ducats of gold as his donative, also three hundred ducats of lire 6 soldi, 4 the ducat, for out-fit; also one hundred and fifty ducats for couriers; also one hundred and sixty crowns, being four months' anticipated pay for extras; also one hundred ducats for his secretary, and twenty ducats a piece for his couriers; and he may take at the risk of the State four hundred ducats' worth of plate.

Ayes 131.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 2.
[*Italian.*]

Sept. 7. Minutes of the Senate, Mar. Venetian Archives.

48. Leave to Foscarini to appoint a chaplain and an interpreter as all other Ambassadors at that Court have had; the salaries and food of both to be discharged by the State in spite of the order of July 28, 1609, disallowing any extras except for couriers and messengers. Be it ordered that the rule of April 4, 1483, forbidding any ambassador to augment his household after his election be suspended for this one time only.

Ayes 114.
Noes 6.
Neutrals 6.
[*Italian.*]

Sept. 8. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

49. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

An account of the siege of Juliers. The English made a mine, but the besieged countermined and blew it up.

Paris, 8th September, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

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1610.
Sept. 8.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

50. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The people of Marseilles, in order to meet the cost of the six galleons for the suppression of piracy, have agreed to a tax of two per cent. upon all merchandize in that city, which will bring in about eighty thousand crowns a year, a sum amply sufficient to keep up the six galleons with three thousand foot on board.

Paris, 8th September, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 9.
Collegio, Lettere. Venetian Archives.

51. To the Podestà of Rovigno.

Some days ago we caused the Englishmen who were arrested by the Captain Nani to be set at liberty, and to have all their property restored to them. We convey the same orders to you, so that if the said captain has left for Zara you may give them effect.

Ayes 22.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 9.
Collegio Esposizioni, Roma. Venetian Archives.

52. Marin Cavalli has reported to the *Savio* of the week a conversation between the French Ambassador and himself. The Ambassador's Secretary met Cavalli at St. Mark's, and said his master wished to pay Cavalli a visit the next day, in return for an official visit made by Cavalli with the consent of the chiefs of the Ten. Cavalli told the Secretary, Mazi, that he could not receive the Ambassador, but that he would wait on him to receive his commands. Mazi said his master was resolved to call. Cavalli said the Ambassador would never find him at home; but Mazi insisted. Cavalli then reported to the Chiefs of the Ten, to await their orders. The Ten authorized Cavalli to receive the visit and to report the conversation. The Ambassador came and among other topics he announced a new alliance between England and France for mutual defence.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 16.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

53. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I went to Oxford on the third of this month, and I sent my Secretary on to Woodstock, which is seven miles further. The Court is at Woodstock, and my Secretary was charged to kiss the hands of the King, the Queen, and the Prince in my name. As soon as the King was informed of this by the Duke of Lennox he sent the Chevalier Murray (Moris) early next morning to Oxford to bring me to the chase and to dine with his Majesty. He sent carriages and horses for myself and my suite, and was pleased to show me roe-deer hunting in various fashions. He killed a number and one he sent to me at my lodging. Towards evening the Queen joined us. At dinner, it being a Saturday, the King eat flesh, while at the

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lower half of the table, where the Prince and I sat, only fish was served. (*Al desinare ch'era in giorno di Sabbato, fu servito il piato del Rè di carne, et dalla metà della tavola in giù, dove eravamo il Principe et io, non fu posto che pesce solo.*) Their Majesties and the Prince honoured me, out of regard for your Serenity, with intimate conversation.

In particular the King asked me who was that friar Fulgentio who was put to death at Rome, and showed satisfaction when he learned that Fulgentio was not a person of high repute, nor in favour with the most Serene Republic, for he had been in some alarm owing to the similarity of the name.* His Majesty took occasion to praise the Ambassador Carleton appointed to Venice, and he dwelt at length on the qualities of Sir Henry Wotton, telling me with great emotion that he had known him in Scotland for a man of spirit and had loved him ever since.† He discoursed at large on the chase, on his parks, on his health, on the leanings of Queen Elizabeth, *on Spanish designs, and gave them scant praise. He showed not the smallest regard for the Duke of Saxony, his brother-in-law, nor for the Imperial investiture granted him for the Duchy of Cleves; nor yet does he think that the forces collected in Milan will be employed on any enterprise.*

The whole day was consumed in amusements up to night fall, and it is not to be believed the amount of fatigue his Majesty will endure at this exercise, for at the time of my arrival he had already killed two deer and yet, under a blazing sun, he insisted on mounting horse again before dinner in order that I might slay one with my own hand. He assured me that he had never touched medicine in his life, but he believed that he would die if he gave up exercise, as he knew he was growing stouter daily (*et mi affermò che si come non ha mai preso medicamento alcuno a suoi giorni, così crederebbe di non poter vivere se abandonasse questo essercitio, conoscendo che ogni giorno si va facendo grasso*).

Two days later the Prince returned by post to his lodging at Richmond, eight miles out of London. The Queen is at Hampton Court and the King arrives there the day after to-morrow. He spent some time on the journey, as he went hunting in various parks. I returned to Oxford and stayed there till the King left. I paid various visits which I thought would be of service to my mission.

My recreation on this journey has been disturbed by the news that reached me forty miles from here that one of my suite, a poor young man, had died of plague in London. The sickness has been on the increase these last few months but not to the extent of previous years, and, thank God, is now decreasing. I attribute this misfortune to the fact that he frequented many English houses where he was very welcome, as he spoke several languages and played the lute (*attribuisco la causa di questa disgratia alle pratiche che teniva in molte case de' Inglesi a quali egli era molto accetto, perchè possedeva diverse lingue et sonava il liuto*). Owing to this misfortune I have resolved to keep away from London for some weeks, and meantime I have sent my secretary to make various

* He had confounded fra Fulgentio Micanzi—friend of fra Paolo Sarpi—with fra Fulgentio Manfredi, who was executed.

† *See* Walton, "Lives." London, 1825, pp. 110, 111.

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visits so that your Serenity's business shall not suffer. In a day or two I shall move myself, and I am taking a lodging near to Hampton Court and Richmond, where the Court lies.

The Merchants of the Levant Company continue to wish to make me a proposition of joint action against the pirates. I am told they are waiting my return to London. They did not call on the day they named, as one of their leading men was absent from London. I shall draw near to the City next week so that they can discuss the matter with me if they choose. Some weeks ago I had an interview with these same merchants at the instance of the Consul Sagredo, who wished them to instruct the English merchants in Syria to stand in with the Venetians and the French on the subject of removing the port of discharge to Tripoli. They show readiness to comply and hope that good may result, though as they have small trade in those parts they do not wish to embark on great expenses. Foscarini writes to me from Paris that he has not only obtained a similar result but that Villeroy has ordered the French Ambassador at this Court to confer with me. I have ordered my Secretary to inform the Ambassador of all that I have done. The whole affair lies in the hands of the merchants who elect and pay the Consuls.

Some weeks ago I wrote to your Serenity that my predecessors have been accustomed, on retiring, to give one hundred and fifty crowns to Lewkenor, Master of the Ceremonies, and to make some smaller gifts to Courtiers and Ministers. I must, with all due respect, point out that such a custom can not be dropped without great damage to this post. Other Ambassadors make such presents by the thousands. I trust your Serenity will recognize that my poor fortune is unable to dispose of such sums. The presents I have made hitherto run up to fifty ducats a month. This is not said as a boast, it is the purest truth. The mere transport of things by sea—which your Serenity made good to this Embassy—amounted to more than the forty ducats voted for all extraordinary expenses. Viscount Cranborne, Lord Salisbury's son, left three days ago for Italy, where he will spend the winter. He has his father's orders to spend almost all the time in the territory of your Serenity and of the Grand Duke of Tuscany. With him goes the third son* of the Earl of Suffolk, Lord High Chamberlain. Enough for me to have informed your Serenity, who is well aware of the power of these houses, and especially of Lord Salisbury, whose only son, Lord Cranborne, is heir to a full treasury rather than to a merely opulent estate. The Viscount has special instructions *not to touch any point in Papal territory, as they fear that his Holiness would be glad to have in his hands the son of so powerful a Minister.*†

The Catholics in this country find themselves very much harassed by the late edicts of Parliament, which are being enforced

* Henry Howard, 3rd son of Thomas, 1st Earl of Suffolk. *See* Winwood "Memorials," III. "He hath the same companion, Mr. Henry Howard, which he had in his former journey, and likewise the same conductors, Dr. Lister and Mr. Finnet."

† *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. Sept. 22nd, Paris. Capt. Turner tells Salisbury of overtures made to him by the Nuncio to decoy some Englishman of note—Lord Ross or Lord Cranborne—into the Pope's dominions, where he might be seized and retained in the hope of exchanging him for Baldwin.

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with some rigour. The obligation upon husbands to pay forty crowns a month for their wives who do not attend the Protestant church, or else the wives must go to prison, weighs heavy on them. This will cause many to abandon the Catholic faith, which they have maintained hitherto by rearing their children in it. They are unable to conceal their distress.

Bornoud, 16th September, 1610.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Sept. 16. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

54. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

A gentleman of the General in command of the English troops under Juliers, arrived eight days ago from camp, has brought news to the Earl of Salisbury that on the last day of August the besieged agreed to surrender to Prince Maurice if succour did not arrive within three days. As no confirmation has been received in this long interval the news is doubted, although it is quite in accord with the general expectation. Three times have they discussed a capitulation and the chief difficulty lies in a demand of Prince Maurice that they should surrender to him two gunners who had deserted from the garrison of Ostend and some other personage of greater importance. The besiegers gradually drew closer to the fortress, and having brought some mines to a successful issue the besieged showed alarm and desire for an agreement; so it would not be surprising if they had grown more ready to accept the terms offered, while the besiegers, who at first demanded the place at discretion, may now have modified their severity, tired with such bloodshed, for the capture of a half-moon by the French recently cost them six hundred men. After the capture of Juliers the army is to sit down before Bedburg (?) (*Bredenbe*), where they will meet with little resistance. If not harassed by the Imperialists they will return whence they came.

The French have already asked and received free passage through Luxembourg. At Woodstock last week the King told me he hoped soon to hear of the fall of Juliers, and that the war was over; and from this I gather that there are no bigger schemes afoot. The mission of the Princes and other Envoys who are, it is said, in Cologne are not likely to prove fruitless after Cleves and Juliers have come into the hands of the "Possessioners," *owing to the Emperor's straits and the little it would cost the "Possessioners" to make a show of recognition.*

A gentleman of the Margrave of Brandenburg arrived in London a few days ago; he has come about the investiture of Cleves granted to the Duke of Saxony. The King sent Murray (Moris), a Scotchman, to meet him and give him some very fine horses and dogs. *The King is hostile to this investiture, and wishes to detach Saxony from the Imperial party.*

The ships seized and brought into the Thames on their way to Hamburg have at last been set free on the demand of Portuguese merchants, who proved that they were entirely their property. The good will of Hamburg in not carrying out the Imperial Edict

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has contributed to this result, as also has the hope that Le Sieur will be successful at the Imperial Court.

Bernoud, 16th September, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

55. Terms of the Surrender of Juliers.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 18. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

56. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Ambassador at Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Earl of Warwick,* the Englishman who built the last great galleon for the Grand Duke Ferdinand, is going to bring to Leghorn a number of English Catholics and eighteen *bertons*, built there.

Florence, 18th September, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 18. Minutes of the Senate, Roma. Venetian Archives.

57. To the Ambassador in Constantinople.

Seeing the ill-will of the Lieutenant Grand Vizir towards our affairs you are to desist, for the present, from any attempt to expel the Jesuits. This may have the effect of restoring the good understanding between yourself and the French Ambassador.

Ayes	165.
Noes	5.
Neutrals	5.

Sept. 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

58. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassadors Extraordinary and Ordinary of England on learning that their Majesties were to go to Monceaux before going to Rheims, suspected that this was done so as to swear the treaty with England in a small village to avoid offending the Spanish Ambassador. They let it be understood, and even said so openly, that unless the treaty were sworn to with all ceremony nothing would be done. Their Majesties have accordingly put off their journey until Monday, the 27th. Yesterday the King had both Ambassadors to dine with him, an honour which, since I have been at this Court, has been conferred on no other Ambassador. After dinner the Confederation was sworn in the Church of the Order of S. Bernard, in the presence of Queen Margaret, the Princes, and all the Court. The Church was magnificently decorated. The Ambassador Extraordinary arrived on Thursday. He was met by the Marshal de Laverdin and a large cavalcade.

The Queen has assigned the Luxembourg as their lodging, to the inconvenience of the Prince of Tingri, who was living there. On Sunday there were separate audiences of the King and Queen. Wotton expressed horror at the "parricide" of "the great" King, and declared that his Master was ready to pledge himself to his

* Sir Robert Dudley, son of the Earl of Leicester.

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Majesty. The Prince Joinville and more than a hundred gentlemen were with him, and next day paid a visit. So have most of the Princes; as that was not done in the case of the Duke of Feria, they say the Queen will cause him also to be waited upon. As yet neither has received an invitation to the "Sacring." The Ambassador of England in Ordinary and the Ambassador of the States have returned thanks for their invitation, but have declined on the score of religion. Nor has a word been said to the Marchese Botti. Council has resolved to return the Embassies to both Kings. The Marshal de Laverdin is destined for the English mission; he will assist at the swearing of the treaty by the King of England and will take back the Garter of the late King. To Spain they say they will send the Grand Ecurier and for Venice they talk of the Count of Rocheguglion, who although of very noble blood still is not the equal of the Ministers of the Crown whom they are sending to the crowned heads, and is besides so young that he in no way corresponds to two grey and venerable Senators. I have caused these observes to be repeated in Council by an intimate as though speaking for himself, and I hope they will produce a good effect.

Since the death of the King all the Ambassadors are in mourning and the Court will wear mourning even through the "Sacring," all except the King, who will put it off for that one day.

Paris, 21st September, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

59. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Six days ago the Consul of Syria returned from Rohan. He came to see me and to take his leave. He renewed his promise to compel the Vice-Consul to replace the thirty bales of cloth that were stolen and to punish him severely even in his very life. The Consul tells me that he will arrest the Vice-Consul and put seals on all his property and will consult with your Serenity's Consul as to how to mete out justice; such are his orders from his Majesty confirmed by Villeroy. I stimulated his zeal and said I hoped that in his own words he would clap the Vice-Consul in prison before touching bite or sup. He leaves to-morrow for Marseilles and after two or three weeks in that city he will sail for Syria. He pointed out reasons why it was desirable that all the Consuls should retire to Beirut rather than to Tripoli, especially on account of the safety of the journey. He says that the Vice-Consul moved to Tripoli *proprio motu* and, although he has left his brother in Aleppo, still his action is wrong; such changes should be made only after mature consultation such as the English Consul held. He added that he was informed that the road from Tripoli to Aleppo was most insecure and that it would be too hard on merchants if, after all the risks of plunder on the sea, they should be exposed to the same on land.

The Merchants of Marseilles have manned three of the galleons belonging to Dauncer, and, as yet, have spent seventeen thousand crowns, ten for provisions and seven for pay for the crews; they

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are all people of Marseilles except Dauncer, who has only two or three of his old lot with him. This to make sure that he does his duty, in addition to which he is to leave all his substance deposited in Marseilles. In ten days' time these galleons will sail for Algiers and Tunis, and Dauncer promises that, if the like amount of reinforcements are sent him, he will clear out those pirates' nests within a year. On Thursday, the Merchants of Marseilles received a royal decree authorizing the imposition of a tax on exports and imports for the up-keep of these galleons. As to the cessation of all trade with Tunis and Algiers, it meets with great opposition from those who are interested in the coral fisheries; but it has been settled that if the Estates of Provence, which are to meet in October, declare such a step to be for the general good it is to be put into operation. This will certainly be voted, for everyone recognises that this is the only way to extirpate the pirates.

Paris, 21st September, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 25. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

60. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The English have begun to arrive at Leghorn. They number five hundred. They bring eighteen well-armed ships, and their families. They say they are Catholics, but God only knows what religion they profess, for they negotiated to come to terms with the Turks and to settle in Africa. His Highness thinks he has made a good affair.

Florence, 25th September, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

61. Giovanni Mocenigo, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador mentioned to the Pope the King of England's complaint that in the reply to his book more attention was paid to attacking him personally than to a consideration of the religious question. The Ambassador remarked on the ill-effect this might have. Others besides Bellarmin have replied to the book, among them Father Capello.

Rome, 25th September, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 27. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

62. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Says that the University of Paris has published a remonstrance, addressed to the Queen Regent and the Council, condemning the assassination of Sovereigns under the plea of piety; citing the gunpowder plot, repudiating the Jesuit doctrine of Papal authority. The Nuncio has complained. Almost contemporaneously has appeared a small book published in reply to Father Cotton's

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defence of the Jesuits. This book is called "Anticotton." The publisher of the second edition has been distributing sheets, containing the chief points, all about the main thoroughfares. At the instance of the Jesuits he has been arrested. The Nuncio and the Jesuits press for punishment, but meet with opposition. A reply has appeared; it is said to be by Cotton. Parliament, by an *arrêt*, has forbidden any further reply or counter-reply. I send all that has been published so far.

Paris, 27th September, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

63. The Remonstrance of the University of Paris.

The assassination of Kings by assassins who devote themselves to death out of piety is a pestilential doctrine. It is a new doctrine unknown to the ancients, to Christians, and to pagans alike; among Mohammedans the old Man of the Mountain* alone employed it, but was at once destroyed by his co-religionists. This plague has only appeared in the last sixty years and has been put in practice in England and in France. We say in England because in all that touches civil and temporal obedience, and as to the safety of their lives, all Kings, be they Christian, pagan, heretic, idolaters, infidels, excommunicate or apostate, are holy and sacred, as the Apostles, the ancient Christian Church and the examples of the Saints in Paradise who once were Prelates and Bishops of France, all teach us. Now this infernal doctrine is based and founded upon another erroneous doctrine, the *toute puisance* of the Pope, who by us is recognised as head of the Church in the same manner as our ancestors recognised him. This doctrine of the supreme power is not to be found in the Theology of Paris, still less in the bosom of the University, but it is to be found in the preachings and writings of the Jesuits, and in the replies of the assassins when interrogated by their Judges. To convince oneself of this let us listen to their words. Parry, who undertook to kill the Queen of England, said that this might be done as she had been excommunicated by the Pope, and therefore her life was abandoned. Catesby, author of that mine which was to sweep away the King of Great Britain, the Queen, their children and the Estates of England, answered that the attempt was a holy one, because Clement VIII. in two breves had forbidden the acknowledgement of the King, and therefore as the King was acknowledged he desired to remove him. Giovanni Castello said that it was a meritorious deed to slay the late King, for although the French Bishops had received him into the Church, he was not really inside it, as the Pope had refused to admit him. Ravailac declared that the King made war against the will of the Pope, that God was the Pope and the Pope God because of the words "Thou art Peter." In consequence of this the Bishop of Claremont, their pupil, after the execution of the assassin, did not fail to attend a meeting of the Sorbonne which had met to condemn the doctrine of the assassins, and as the Doctors were

* The Imam of the Assassins, or Ismaelians of Persia, established in Mount Libanus; destroyed by Holagou Khan. *See* Gibbon, "Decline and Fall," etc. Bohn. VII. 126.

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taking their places to vote, he cried out "Have a care what you do; you have here two Apostolic Nuncios"; and when all were seated he moved that the question be referred to the Nuncios, who would write to the Pope, as though there were to be no kings but such as are pleasing to the popes. After many sound preachers of this University had condemned the assassination, Father Cotton presented to your Majesty a letter setting forth the doctrine of the Jesuits on this point, in which he endeavoured to quiet all those who complained that Jesuit teaching lent too strong a support to these three doctrines, which are closely connected, *i.e.* the supreme power of the Pope, and in consequence the legitimacy of rebellion, and the abandon of the lives of kings whenever it pleased these people to name them as tyrants. Many people of intelligence are aware of the disingenuous equivocation with which he covers and hides his pernicious doctrine, in accordance with the teaching of his society as set forth in treatises approved by their General. See Henry Garnet on "Equivocation."

The University would be loath to lay bare his fallacies were it not that the Jesuits lay claim to teach the young, a concession strenuously refused by the late King; and the University, therefore, as a faithful daughter of the King of France, would merit blame if it did not lay bare these fallacies and pray your Majesty to preserve it unpolluted by a sect which has been proved so inimical to Kings.

Cotton says that the authors of his order (*ordine*) declare that it is not right to slay a tyrant; but the authorities he cites and especially Valentia, their last great doctor, add a proviso "unless it be on public judgement," and to make it clear what "public judgement" means he has written several tracts on the "Authority of Kings."

The document then goes on to assert the Conciliar Principle and to dwell on the fallacy involved in Cotton's use of the word "absolute," and in the doctrine of the "conjunction of temporal and spiritual powers" in the Pope. Protest against the doctrine of Suarez that subjects may rise against their King, even though not excommunicated, if they think fear is the reason why excommunication has not been launched. This is the doctrine on which the last assassin acted. They do not doubt but the Pope, well advised, will put a stop to all this. For people will say that he who can put a stop to such evils and does not is himself the author. By the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ, we—in spite of all ecclesiastical censures, interdicts, dispensations from the oath of allegiance, papal commands to rebellion against our Sovereigns—are bound to render them all civil and temporal obediences. Justifies the Oath of Allegiance.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

64. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

An Agent of the Emperor sent to the Archdukes to exhort them to succour Juliers arrived in Brussels after the place had been consigned to the "Possessioners." At any time it would have been a useless attempt, for although their Highnesses have massed their

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troops on the confines of Cleves, no representations would have persuaded them to mix actively in this war without express orders from Spain. After the siege of Juliers, part of the garrison was received in Maastricht and other places. They are greatly honoured and flattered both because of the valour displayed in the defence and because, when all hope of succour had disappeared, they came to terms that guarded religion, life, property, the rights of citizens and their own personal honour. At the present time those States are relieved of a great burden and the neighbouring cities of serious alarm by the disbanding of the auxiliary troops. Every one is waiting to see how Brandenburg and Neuburg will arrange among themselves. Every one thinks the claims of Neuburg are the better founded, but, on the other hand, Brandenburg has the better support and following, and is more vigorous in power and forces, and it seems that *the very Princes who have taken part in this enterprise consider it more to their interest that those States should go to Brandenburg, a Prince capable of holding them and of rendering a return for the services received in acquiring them. It is also thought necessary to come to some arrangement with the Duke of Saxony, for though his claims are not held in much regard by his Majesty, still on the grounds of relationship they will receive support rather than otherwise, on condition, however, that his interests are considered separately from those of the house of Austria, as I am informed by a Minister of the highest standing and as is confirmed by what his Majesty promised to Count Mansfeldt who was here as Envoy from the Duke.*

The Spanish Ambassador praises the prudent answer given by your Serenity to the Duke of Savoy on the question of the recent concentration of forces. He never fails to amplify the offers of assistance made to his Catholic Majesty by other Italian Princes. He declares that all will end quietly, thanks to the kindness of the King of Spain, as he is satisfied with having reduced the Duke of Savoy to straits and shown him that he could have done him an injury.

Lady Arabella has, on the King's return from his Progress, induced the Lords of Council to present to his Majesty a petition drawn up and written out by herself begging for greater freedom. She met with some opposition, but they agreed to oblige her. The King first of all made an observation on the subscription in which she no longer calls herself a Stewart but Seymour, the family of her husband, and he showed annoyance. After reading the petition he desired the Earl of Salisbury to look through it; Salisbury subsequently declared that he did not blush to own that his style, for all that he was first Secretary, could not rival that of a woman, for he thought it would tax all Parliament to draft an answer which should correspond to the arguments and eloquence of the petition. (Il quale dopo disse che non si vergognara dire che 'l suo stile, ben che primo Secretario, non arivasse a quello di una doña perchè credera che tutto il Parlamento durerebbe fatica a formar risposta con argomenti et eloquenza corrispondente.) The King asked whether it was well that a woman so closely allied to the royal blood should rule her life after her own caprice, and announced that he reserved his answer. All the same it is thought that she will presently be satisfied, as it will be difficult for her to see her husband again before she is too old to bear children. (Dimando il Rè se era bene che una così congiunta al sangue regale si

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governasse di sua testa, et disse che si riserbava la risposta nel suo peto; tuttavia si crede che possi restar presto compiacciuta si come le riuscirà sempre difficile il poter riveder il marito mentre si troverà in età di haver figli.)

The plague is on the decrease and with a touch of cold it should disappear.

These Princes are ten miles away from London and will not come into town till the season is colder. After four weeks' absence from this house I have again taken up my residence on the advice of the doctors, and I think of moving nearer to their Majesties in the course of a couple of days. Last week I renewed my complaints to the Ministers, because in spite of the King's promise given to me the prisoners who are sureties for the value of the booty taken out of the "Reniera and Soderina" are still frequently seen walking through the city. The Council at once sent orders in writing to the Judge of the Admiralty Court, to keep them shut up, as this was the absolute will of his Majesty. If this be done, as I hope it will, there is no doubt that they will make up their minds to satisfy the claim.

London, 30th September, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Sept. 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

65. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

They are waiting the arrival of Father Baldwin, the Jesuit. He was arrested in the Palatinate as an accomplice in the Gunpowder Plot. He was to have as escort into Holland a strong detachment of the cavalry that was in Cleves. *The Spanish and the Archdukes did all they could to prevent Baldwin being sent, but as the Palatine aims at marrying his son to the Princess he found no difficulty in obliging the King on this point.* His Majesty has for long desired to have Baldwin and frequently urged the Archdukes to surrender him. He hopes by means of Baldwin to discover some other accomplice of the plot. The Father does not deny that it was imparted to him in confession, but says that he condemned it and dissuaded from it with all his might. We must expect, however, that he will be most severely tortured. (*Sperando poter per suo mezo penetrar alcun' altro complice della detta congiura; la quale intendo che questo Padre non nega che gli fosse conferita in confessione ma afferma haverla dannata et disuasa con ogni suo potere; bisogna però credere che habbi ad esser rigorosamente tormentato.*)

In the county of Oxford (*contado di Ossonia*) a few days ago a Catholic priest was arrested. In spite of the outlawry and the opportunity granted them to retire the country is still full of priests. This priest while in prison converted two young men condemned to death, who publicly proclaimed themselves Roman Catholics and ended their days with great constancy. On this account the oath of allegiance was very strictly put to the priest and he, refusing to take it, was straightway put to death, which as I am assured wrought great confirmation among the Catholics and the conversion of many others.

London, 30th September, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

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Oct. 2.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

66. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

After the affair of the English who are to settle at Leghorn was concluded the desire to go privateering has revived. The Grand Duke is opposed, but he will have to yield to his Ministers, as there is considerable profit to be got from these expeditions.

Florence, 2nd October, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 6.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

67. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador Extraordinary has received his *congè* and a copy of the league signed by their Majesties; also a jewel worth a thousand crowns. Yesterday he left for Fontainbleau, where he will be received and entertained. He will be back in three days, and after staying one or two more he will set out for England covered with honours and favours.

Paris, 6th October, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 7.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

68. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

For many days past his Majesty has been suffering from violent relaxation of the bowels brought on by the fruit he eats.* He did not pay attention to it, but on Tuesday at Greenwich, where he had gone to act as god-father to a son of the Earl of Argyll, he was sick and had to go to bed and to send to London and Cambridge for doctors, a thing he had never done in the whole course of his life, as he himself assured me recently at Woodstock. At the baptism the Prince took the King's place, the second god-father was the Earl of Salisbury, and god-mother the Marchioness of Winchester,† niece of the Earl of Salisbury on his brother's side. Everyone tries to win Lord Salisbury's favour, as his authority and reputation are without parallel in this kingdom.

The moment the Queen heard of the King's indisposition she left Hampton Court for Greenwich, and finding him much better they returned the same day to Hampton Court, which the Court loves for its size and for its excellent air. The King will soon leave again for his usual chase at Royston, to which he attributes so much of his health, apart from the great pleasure he takes therein, and that makes him impatient now and he is with difficulty persuaded to stay where he is until he has recovered his strength a little, though this indisposition is not considered free of danger unless he pays more heed to it than he has hitherto done. The day before yesterday I did my duty to his Majesty and to-day I have sent to enquire after his health; this has pleased them greatly, and his Majesty

* Grapes. *See* Nichols, *op. cit.*, Vol. II., p. 367.

† Lucy, daughter of Thomas, 1st Earl of Exeter; married to William, Marquess of Winchester.

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sent back an answer that I cannot repeat without blushing. I will defer my audience to his Majesty's convenience and will inform them of my business.

Besides the three men-of-war built in Scotland there is another here intended for the Prince. His Highness has shown solicitude and taken great pains that it should be built most carefully, even coming down himself to see that this was done. She has turned out a magnificent work for size, construction, and adornment of carving, painting, and gilding. She is of 1,800 tons burden, and so built that she can hardly sink even though pierced by the enemy's artillery.* There are stands for eighty guns, but I am told that his Highness will not have more than fifty, so that she may be lighter and more handy. On Monday the King, the Queen and all the Princes went to see her launched, but the mouth of the dock in which she was built proved too narrow, and they had to give up the attempt. His Majesty gave it the name of the "Royal Prince"; and his Highness went down again the next day two hours before dawn, at the top of the tide, being resolved at any cost to be present when she entered the river.† He hopes to cross over to Denmark in her very soon to visit his uncle. (*Riesce una stupenda machina per la capacità, per l'artificio, et per gli ornamenti d'intaglio, pitture et oro. E di portata di* 1800 *botte, et fatto in modo che difficilmente può esser affondato ancorche venga forato dall' artiglieria nemica. Vi è dessignata piazza per* 80 *pezzi, ma mi viene affermato che sua Altezza non ve ne vuole più di cinquanta perchè riesca più pronto et leggiero.*

Andorno lunedi il Rè, la Regina e tutti li Principi per vederlo metter all' acqua, ma essendosi trovata la bocca delle fossa, dentro la quale è stato fabbricato troppo angusta, doppo haverlo mosso, bisognò cessar dall' impresa. Sua Maestà li diede nome di Real Principe, et l'Altezza sua si transferì di novo la mattina seguente due hore avanti giorno nel colmo della marea al medesimo luoco havendo voluto in ogni modo trovarsi presente quando è stato calato nel fiume. Con il qual Vascello spera di poter passar ben presto in Danimarca a ritrovare il Rè suo Cio.)

At Cologne they are trying to arrange for the pacification of all Germany. They wish to interest his Catholic Majesty and the Archduke Albert. To the disagreement between Brandenburg and Neuburg is added this new claim of Neuburg to the guardianship of the young Count Palatine. Neuburg pretends that the father had no right to confer the guardianship on the Duke and Duchess of Deuxponts to his prejudice. Saxony continues to urge his claims to Cleves and gains strength from this discord. All this gives a great deal of trouble to the Congress sitting on this subject. The proposal to place the fortress of Juliers in the hands of the Prince of Orange *meets with little approval from the King of England and the United Provinces* and this is the chief reason why it is ineffective.

The Duke of Saxony recently addressed a letter to the States General of the Low Countries, but as the address was not in the form due to free Sovreigns, it was sent back to him unopened.

* See Nichols, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 365, note 6, where her dimensions are given as keel 114ft., cross beam 44ft. "She will carry three score and foure pieces of great ordinance and is of the burthen of 1400 tons."

† See full account of the launch in Nichols, *loc. cit.*

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The reconciliation of the Emperor with Mathias* *has been coldly received by many*, still it is thought that the Congress of Cologne will find a way to an agreement, and the disbanding of the auxiliaries in Cleves will not only close the negotiations in Cologne but will induce the Spaniards to disarm in the Milanese. The artillery has been taken back already to Holland, and Archduke Albert has recalled his troops from the frontier.

London, 7th October, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Oct. 8. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

69. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The English who came to settle in Leghorn were assisted thereto by the Pope as being Catholics. I hear the Grand Duke will grant them the flag to go privateering, on paying the deposit (*smiragliata*†).

Florence, 8th October, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 19. Consiglio de'Dieci, Parti Communi. Venetian Archives.

70. That Mattio Serpato who denounced Benetto Lombardo for carrying a pistol have a voice in the liberation of an outlaw.

Ayes 13.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 20. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from the Proveditore Generale in Candia. Venetian Archives.

71. Girolamo Capello, Governor General in Candia, to the Doge and Senate.

The English *berton* "Corsaletta" about which your Serenity requires information was, in obedience to orders of the Senate, consigned by this government to Arthur Sheers (*Siers*), an Englishman. Sheers left for Chios, and named as his agent Vivian Segari, English Consul in this city, with special orders to sell her for one thousand sequins, as by enclosed papers. Segari arranged to sell the ship and six pieces of artillery to Zorzi Vlastò for one thousand sequins, to be paid in five years, payment to be made in March each year. Vlastò, for various reasons, having refused to stand by his bargain, Segari, to avoid a suit, took over the contract in the terms in which it was made with Vlastò. This transfer was registered, and as Segari declares, Arthur Sheers was notified at Chios. Segari at present holds the thousand sequins and eight iron guns and says he is ready to pay the two instalments now due at a word from your Serenity or from Sheers. Segari says he bought the vessel so that she might not rot in port; that he has

* *See* Dumont, Corps. Dip. V., part 2, p. 143.

† *See Rezasco Dizionario del linguaggio italiano storico et amministrativo.* A Tuscan word. If the captain of a vessel were a foreigner he had to pay a deposit to the owner before sailing.

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spent a lot on her and has sent her on her first voyage to the Archipelago and then on another to Alexandria, whence he expects her back day by day.

Canea, 20th October, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

72. Note of the papers relating to the *berton* "Corsaletta."

No. 1. Letter of Sagredo mentioning order of Senate.
No. 2. Commission from Arthur Sheers to Vivian Segari.
No. 3. Notes of a minute left by Arthur Sheers with Segari.
No. 4. Inventory of the ship and her fittings as consigned to Sheers.
No. 5. Purchase of ship by Segari.
No. 6. Segari's papers when sending out the "Corsaletta" for corn.

[*Italian.*]

Covered by preceding despatch.

73. Presented to the Most Illustrious SIGNOR CAVALIER by ARTHUR SHEERS (*Siers*), Englishman, on the first of August, 1608.

While I was in that city I received despatches from the Senate dated 2nd of May last by which I was strictly enjoined to restore the ship "Corsaletta," captured by the commander of the great galleys, Venier, and lying now many months in that port; I was also ordered to release the master and the crew and consign all the fittings and cargo into the hands of Arthur Sheers or Ellis Martin (*Hilis*), an Englishman, or whoever acted for them. At the moment that I received these orders neither of these persons was in Canea and their agent sent letters to Chios, where they were, to tell them to despatch some one for this business. I now hear that the said Arthur is at Suda, in quarantine, and I have letters requesting me to give effect to the public orders; I therefore require you, without delay, and removing all difficulties which might fairly arise, to restore the ship and all it contains, fittings, artillery, merchandise, everything taken out of her, all her victuals, free of any charge whatsoever even to the charge of unloading her, as also of any claim which might entail charges on the ship or her cargo.

The same to apply to all that has been saved from the wreck of the two English ships which were lost a few months ago inside Cape Spada; all this to be handed over to the said Arthur, but on his voluntary assent you will keep two per cent. of the values. You will make the necessary deposit, and will give full and immediate execution to the will of the Senate nor cause me to come in person to that city before the ordinary affairs require, as it is my resolute intention that these orders be carried out.

Candia, 21st July, 1608.

NICOLÒ SAGREDO.

Addressed to :—
The Illustrious Gentleman,
Girolamo Longo,
Vice-Rector of Canea.

[*Italian.*]

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Covered by preceding despatch.

74. Notarial act dated 14th September, 1608, executed in Canea, by which Arthur Sheers (*Siers*), English merchant, grants powers to Vivian Segari, acting English Consul in Canea, absent but as though present, to represent him at law in defence of his claims; to make depositions, retain counsel and solicitors, to enter protests, to recover credits, sell goods, convene Council of Twelve, in short to fulfil all that is enjoined upon him by the instructions with which he has been furnished; with right to appeal and to name substitutes, and in everything to act as though he were the said Arthur in person, who promises to be bound by all his acts.

[*Italian.*]

Covered by preceding despatch.

75. Instructions given by Arthur Sheers to Vivian di Grasseti Segari.

As for the "Corsaletta" you are to have a care of her and to treat with the *amiraglio* who has promised me every courtesy in taking the ship to Gurgutha, which I desire may be done as soon as possible; and should he show any desire to buy her you are to sell her for one thousand sequins along with two or four or all her pieces of artillery. What you do in this matter I will hold good.

Canea, 14th October, 1608.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

76. Registration of the purchase of the *berton* "Corsaletta" with six cannon of cast iron, for one thousand sequins, payable in five years in five instalments of two hundred sequins each, due every March.

[*Italian.*]

Covered by preceding despatch.

77. Petition of Vivian Segari to the Rector of Canea.

Has spent money on the purchase and outfit of the "Corsaletta," and now offers to send her out to fetch corn to be consigned to the Corn Exchange on the following conditions:—

A safe-conduct for export of corn from Turkey.

May declare on his return whether he will consign the whole cargo or will keep a fourth to sell at his own good will and pleasure inside the island.

Payment to him be made immediately in golden sequins of 14 lire each.

This contract to be signed and registered.

Benetto Pesaro, Rector.
Vivian Segari.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

78. Inventory of goods found in the ship "Corsaletta," made at the instance of Arthur Sheers and in the presence of Vivian Grasseti Segari, English Consul.

[*Italian.*]

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Oct. 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

79. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King's indisposition has lasted longer than was expected. It has kept him for two weeks, partly in bed, partly confined to his rooms by great weakness. He is now recovering strength, though very slowly. To-day he is to come to London with the intent of going to-morrow to Theobalds and thence to Royston for a few weeks. By means of the Great Chamberlain his Majesty recently informed me that if the business for which I had demanded audience did not require his presence he would be glad if I could confer with Lord Salisbury, if it did he would find time to see me. I replied expressing my desire not to trouble his Majesty while he was recovering his health, and I said the same to Lord Salisbury, who, before engaging me in conversation, conveyed to me messages from the King. I presented your Serenity's letters and made vigorous representations that the "Corsaletta" had been seized justly on various grounds and had been set free of grace; that the damage was not caused by the Republic, but must be attributed either to the length and difficulty of the voyage, or to the negligence of the English, on whose behalf orders had been issued. Lord Salisbury replied that it was not for him to give me an answer, but only to refer all I had laid before him to the King, but he added that he did not see how his Majesty could rest content while his Ambassador wrote assuring him that right was on the English side. The owner, who importunes the King, can not be satisfied either, as he has lost all hope of recovering anything and is so utterly ruined that he stirs compassion in everyone. I desired to leave his Excellency well persuaded of the sound reason of your Serenity, and so made various replies; he complained of the delay in the restitution and affirmed that the ship had offered no resistance; I gave him the true story and pointed out that it was not likely that a ship of a Sovereign so beloved by the Republic would have been seized without grave reasons. Salisbury, on the ground of not being fully informed, relied on the statements of Wotton.

After the death of the Palatine, their Majesties turned their attention still more to the question of marrying the Princess, their daughter, to the young Count. If this match comes off it will take place in a year or a little more.

The claims of the Duke of Neuberg to the guardianship of this Prince *have kept the minds of the Protestants in great doubt lest he should intend to go over to the Emperor and to submit to his decision; but by the interposition of some of them and by showing him that he would greatly injure himself by accepting now a judge whom he had formerly declined, they hope to prevent this step and to find out some device by which not only the question of guardianship be settled but the Margrave of Brandenburg may retain the Duchy of Cleves and Neuburg may receive instead some other Principality and money. Of other negotiations at Cologne the King has no news for many days, although it seems that his Ambassador is not quite satisfied with his treatment at that Congress.*

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The English troops at the operations under Juliers have received only two pays from his Majesty, and the Estates of the United Provinces, in whose service those troops are, have instructed their Ambassador at this Court to demand that two other pays be written off the debt which the United Provinces owe to this Crown, and to show that the Provinces have undergone great charges in sending artillery, munitions, boats and other things necessary.

The terms of the treaty signed between the King and the Protestant Princes have never been sent as yet. They are now to be forwarded to the Ambassador at Cologne; but I am told from a sure source that they are being kept back till the Duke of Neuburg's action is defined.

Meantime Prince Maurice, brother of the widow-mother of the Count Palatine, has gone to join her Highness in order to lend his counsel in all that may affect his nephew. Of Prince Maurice we hear that he has contracted a marriage with a sister of Brandenburg. This would bind that Prince still closer to the United Provinces.

The Ambassadors of Sweden are still in Holland, negotiating a League with the participation of his Majesty, and they have been very successful; the States have given orders to be informed of his Majesty's resolves. His Majesty is jealous of the success of the Poles in Russia, either on the score of religion or because Spain has influence with them.

In Scotland a few days ago Bishop (?) (*Bisceps*) the pirate was arrested. He is very rich and has done very great damage to every nation at sea. He had gone to Scotland to lay in provisions, and under cloak of friendship he was entertained by a Scot who, at a moment when a part of Bishop's people were away to get water, attacked the ship and took the captain himself prisoner to his house; but so inclined is this race to piracy, and so feeble is the resistence offered to plunderers, that for one buccaneer uprooted many another springs up.

I have just heard that Captain Tomkins has been condemned to death; that is he who captured the "Balbiana." He pleaded his own case with much boldness, and without great diligence on our side and a favourable attitude in the Judges, he would, without doubt, have saved his life, owing to the lack of evidence. He shows no fear of death, and indeed he said before the whole bench that he only regretted that he had not killed everyone found on board. (*Ma tanto è inclinata questa natione al corso, et trova così poca resistenza nel far preda che per uno che se ne estirpi ne risorgono molti. Hora appunto intendo che sia stata giudicato reo di morte il Capitan Tomkins che prese la nave Balbiana. Egli stesso ha difesa la sua causa con molto ardire, et senza molta diligenza di questa parte et una buona dispositione de' Giudici haverebbe sicuramente campata la vita per la scarsità delle prove che si sono potute havere. Non mostra temer la morte havendo ultimamente detto nel cospetto di tutti i Giudici, che non li doleva d'altro che di non haver ammazzati quanti trovò sopra la nave*).

London, 21st October, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

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1610.
Oct. 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

80. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The West Indian *flotta* has arrived bringing cargo to the value of nine millions of gold, two millions belong to the King and the Duke of Lerma.

Madrid, 21st October, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

81. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

A few days ago Father Baldwin, the Jesuit, was brought here bound in very close fetters.* The Governor of the Tower apologised for the harsh treatment he had received on his journey and takes care that he wants for nothing. He has been thrice examined in Council. *He has also been questioned as to the death of the King of France, but not only have they not, for all their diligence, got from him the smallest light, but he has succeeded in rendering nugatory the indications unfavourable to him. His courage is incredible and his answers most acute. He was posed with the supposition of a war with Spain or some other Catholic power on a point of Faith, he answered that he held himself bound to take the King of England's part, and the same should the Catholics of this Kingdom rise, or if the very Pope himself took arms on such a plea. Then on being asked what he would do should the Pope excommunicate the King and deprive him of his kingdom, he answered that he stood charged with complicity in the Gunpowder Plot, that he must give his mind to those charges. He frequently insisted to the Lords of the Council that the evidence against him was groundless, and that they should put it out of their heads that they would ever, by any means whatsoever, get from his lips what they looked for. As yet he has not been tortured in any way, and I understand that the King and Council are disposed to send him back to the Palatine by whom he was consigned to them, for they think that thus they would gain as much in the good opinion of Catholics as they would lose credit with even the heretics if Baldwin remained firm under torture and died.*

London, 21st October, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Oct. 23.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

82. To the Ambassador in England.

Authority to make a present to the Master of the Ceremonies, Lewkenor, of one hundred and fifty crowns, in view of the importance of keeping him favourably inclined, especially as our precedence is constantly attacked by the Flemish Ambassadors; also to divide one hundred crowns among the inferior officials.

Ayes 102.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Oct. 8, 1610, "Warrant to pay Sir John Burclay and Capt. Barnaby Dewhurst 120*l.* for conveying Baldwin from Düsseldorf to London."

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1610.
Oct. 31.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

83. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

On Thursday evening Sir Dudley Carleton, Ambassador of the King in England, arrived here. On Friday he returned my visit.

Turin, the last of October, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 1.
Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

84. Marc' Antonio Padavin, Venetian Secretary in Germany, to the Doge and Senate.

At the Convention of Cologne, the Princes refused to receive the Commissioners of Saxony who claimed position as a "possessioner" in virtue of the Imperial investiture. Matters were at a deadlock when the English and French Ambassadors proposed that the "possessioners" should swear to hold the two Duchies in the name of the Emperor, and to renounce them to whomsoever they might be adjudicated; that the population should recognise the Emperor as their supreme Lord; that the commanders of the forts of Juliers in particular should declare and swear that they were held for the Emperor and would be renounced to whomsoever they might be adjudicated; that the Princes of the Union should make some act of reverence to the Emperor.

Prague, 1st November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 3.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

85. Andrea Gussoni, Agustino Nani and Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassadors in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke of Ventadour drives the Jesuits out of Languedoc and destroys their College. He also burned by the hand of the hangman a pamphlet they had published about the miracle of Garnet's blood. The Jesuits reckon him a martyr. The Jesuits of that country are seriously accused, especially one Father David, of preaching the lawfulness of regicide and publishing the miracles of Garnet.

Paris, 3rd November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 3.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Crema. Venetian Archives.

86. Francesco Zen, Governor of Crema, to the Doge and Senate.

Yesterday evening, after twenty three o'clock, I received letters from the Rectors of Brescia enclosing a copy of the orders of the Sanitary Commissioners to place in quarantine at the first place on the frontiers of the State, the English Ambassador who was arriving, as they said, from a suspected country. As the Rectors thought the Ambassador might take this road and arrive here before reaching Brescia they forwarded this order.

In order to proceed securely and also to be able to give some satisfaction to his Excellency if he came here, I sent off an express to the Resident at Milan to find out, if possible, the day on which the Ambassador would reach these frontiers, where I intended to

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provide him with suitable lodging; but while I was waiting a reply by my express, the Ambassador arrived before the city gates, nor could I induce him to turn back two miles where a better lodging had been prepared for him. Finally after sending my deputy to his carriage, he consented to settle himself in another lodging, a mile out of the city, lent me by Captain Andrea Roba, where he will be quite comfortable. The Ambassador, after complaining that he had been treated here as in no other place, for he had always received free passage and all courtesy, made a special grievance of the fact that he had not been warned of this impediment by any of your Serenity's Ambassadors or Ministers with whom he had spoken; he announced his intention of retracing his steps to await his orders outside the State of Venice so as not to be exposed to further repulse, although the hour was very late to go back to Lodi as he said he wished to do. Meantime I appointed two of the leading gentlemen of this city to wait upon him and I caused him to be informed that I was sending a courier express to Venice and that in two days he would know your Serenity's decision. I assured him of the constant desire to satisfy all the Ministers of the Crown of England owing to the good understanding between it and the Republic. The whole business has been extremely delicate and unexpected, for I found myself face to face with two dangers, either that he would turn back in disgust if he could not enter the city or that he would absolutely refuse a lodging outside the city, as he has his wife and other women with him. I was in great doubt what course to pursue, but thanks be to God I have succeeded beyond my expectations considering the personage with which I was dealing; I think the lateness of the hour and the Ambassador's need for repose helped me much.

This gentleman has four hired carriages, and nineteen or twenty persons in all, counting men and women. Throughout his journey he has had no mishap of sickness or death among his suite. He has no baggage waggon, but in the carriages he has three cases (*tamburi*), one trunk (*coffa*), and two or three leather valises with his own clothes. He says he has been forty-two days on the journey and has been freely admitted everywhere, as the Resident at Milan particularly informs me by letter received after the Ambassador's arrival. I have sent a horse express to inform your Serenity, so that by some means you may give me your commands, as I have no orders in this matter beyond those from the Rectors of Brescia. I have reported the whole to them, and if orders come from them before they reach me from your Serenity I will give them effect, for I fear that the Ambassador if he has to stay shut up may return to Milan or elsewhere.

Crema, 3rd November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 3. Senato Secreta. Despatches from Milan. Venetian Archives.

87. Giovanni Francesco Marchesini, Venetian Resident in Milan, to the Doge and Senate.

At eight at night I received an express from the Podestà and Captain of Crema begging me to inform him how the Sanitary Authorities here intend to treat the English Ambassador (Carleton) now on his

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way to Venice. I rose at dawn to find out about this, and a gentleman from the Ambassador waited on me to present his service and excuse his calling on me, as he had arrived so late the day before and had spent the remainder of the day in seeing the city. I said I would wait on him at once, but his gentleman said the Ambassador was just about to take carriage to move forward to Crema. I sent one of my household to pay my respects and he found the Ambassador in fact getting into his carriage. He has his wife and other ladies and eight carriages. He was lodged quite simply at the "Three Kings." The Sanitary officers had taken no notice of him.

Milan, 3rd November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 3. Collegio Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

88. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and leaving in the Ante-chamber the Viscount Cranborne (*Crambur*) son of the Earl of Salisbury, and the son of the Lord Chamberlain his cousin, although he had been told that he might introduce them along with himself or after himself, spoke briefly as follows:

"Most Serene Prince, I come this morning merely to present to your Serenity two youths who are in my company. The Earl of Salisbury writes to me commanding me to place in the arms of your Serenity Viscount Cranborne (*Crambur*) his son, and to recommend him to the protection of your Serenity and of these Illustrious and Excellent Gentlemen, and at the same time to make offer of himself and his services which he is ever willing to place at the disposal of your Serenity and of this Most Serene Republic. For companion, he has sent with his own son a brother-in-law,* the son of the Lord Chamberlain, who although by our law he does not enjoy the privileges and a fortune of a first-born is, nevertheless, very lucky in being the heir to the fortune of the Earl the Keeper of the Privy Seal.† I therefore beg your Serenity to graciously receive these two heirs of such great fortunes; that is my sole business this morning. I recognise the honour Lord Salisbury has done me in desiring that these gentlemen should arrive here before the new Ambassador, and that thus I should have the honour of presenting them."

The Doge replied that he would see them willingly as recommended by the Ambassador, but above all out of regard for the Earl of Salisbury, for whom he had a high esteem both on account of his lofty qualities and of his good will towards the Republic. The Doge gave orders that they be introduced, as was done. They were accompanied by several gentlemen, and on reaching the steps of the daïs the Ambassador met them and presented them to the Doge, who embraced them with feeling and caused them to be seated, as had been already arranged, on his left hand above the Ducal Councillors, first the Viscount and then the Chamberlain's son. They having taken their seats said not a word, as they could not speak

* William Cecil, Lord Cranborne, had married in Dec., 1608, Catherine, daughter of Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk, sister of Henry Howard.

† Henry Howard, K.G., Earl of Northampton, grand-uncle of Henry.

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Italian, although, as was afterwards discovered, they understood it. The Ambassador, however, made a courteous speech in their name, and his Serenity replied with benignity, expressing his satisfaction that the Earl of Salisbury should have given this proof of his regard by sending his only son to visit their Lordships, and offering them every facility they could desire in the city. The Ambassador said that on his way through Turin Lord Cranborne had been greatly honoured by his Highness, that he had passed through Milan and the cities of the Republic and had reached Venice, where he would stay only a short time, for being married he desired to return to England as soon as possible. After a little further conversation they departed; a sum of sixty ducats was ordered for their entertainments.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 4. Senato Secreta. Dispatches from Brescia. Venetian Archives.

89. Francesco Zen, Governor in Crema, to the Doge and Senate.

After the despatch of my letters last night to your Serenity and to the Rectors of Brescia, this morning early the English Ambassador insisted on turning back and had already had his valises packed on the carriages and was only waiting till they put to the horses. I was informed of this by one of the two gentlemen I had deputed to wait on the Ambassador and I instantly sent Signor Clavello, as soon as the gates were opened, to use every means to pacify the Ambassador at least until I could receive an answer from Brescia if he would not wait the answer from Venice, for he was in a place where he had only to command and he would be instantly obeyed and supplied with everything as was natural in a city where he was so welcome; I regretted any annoyance to him but it was not in my power to change the orders of the sanitary officers, who were on this point superior to myself and to the officials in Brescia. These representations calmed the Ambassador somewhat and he ordered the horses to be unharnessed and the valises taken down. And to still further placate him I thought it well (though not to disobey your Serenity's orders, for I did it for the public not for my private service, and if it so please your Serenity, I will defray the charges out of my private purse) to offer him some refreshment and I caused some bowls to be made ready, in one of which was quince and peach ices, one with peach-paste, another with pistacchio, two jars of preserved citron; on four other dishes were thirty different kinds of salad and some salted tongue; a piece of cheese weighing sixty pounds, six pairs of cappons and a barrel of old Malmesey, and another of fresh Muscat; cost of the whole about two hundred lire. The Ambassador received all this very graciously and called the Ambassadress to be present at the act, and although it was hard upon the dinner hour, both husband and wife tasted the wine and gave a toast and also tried some of the other dainties. But all today they have been looking out for the courier from Brescia, for the place where they are commands the road, and no sooner had the courier arrived than the Ambassador sent to ask me what the Rectors had decided. They as a matter of fact made two main points; first, that they could not permit transit through either territory or

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city committed to their charge, and the other that I was to do all I could to prevent the Ambassador from leaving. I at once sent Signor Clavello to explain everything; he fulfilled his mission so well that he completely pacified the Ambassador, who said that if it pleased your Serenity to keep him out of Venice for fifteen or twenty days he begged that Desenzano might be assigned as the place for his quarantine, although he was very anxious to keep the appointment made with his predecessor to meet him on the evening of Tuesday in Padua, so that he might get back to his own country before the bad weather set in and the roads became worse.

This is what I have to report to your Serenity, whose orders I await by the courier I sent and who must soon be back.

Crema, 4th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 4. Collegio Cerimoniale, Venetian Archives.

90. The arrival in Venice, privately, of VISCOUNT CRANBORNE (*Esambar*) and the son of the Lord Chamberlain of England.

The Viscount Cranborne (*Clambur*), son of the Earl of Salisbury, and his brother-in-law, the son of the Lord High Chamberlain to his Majesty the King of Great Britian, having arrived in Venice and being lodged with the Ambassador of England, they asked leave to come to the Cabinet to pay their respects to his Serenity. By agreement with the Cabinet both of them came accompanied by the Ambassador, who was made to sit in his usual seat, while the other two sat on his Serenity's left.

By order of the Cabinet they were presented with refreshments to the value of sixty ducats. The Senate also authorized the Cabinet to spend up to 400 ducats to present, at various times, other refreshment and to entertain them in the arsenal, which was shown them along with all the other sights of the City.

Orders were also sent to the Governor of Palma that if they went, as they intended, to see that fortress he was to lodge and entertain them to the amount of sixty ducats.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

91. MARC' ANTONIO CORRER, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Saturday the Prince of Anhault arrived in this kingdom, with a small following and without any previous understanding with the King. Sir Lewis Lewkenor was at once sent to meet him and to bring him to the City in the Royal barges. The following day the Prince went to visit Lord Salisbury, and he is now awaiting the King's return from Royston* on Wednesday next. The Prince would have been better pleased to go to see the King out in the country, so anxious is he to conclude his business here. He started from Düsseldorf and came through Holland, where he stayed four days on business. *He has come on the pretext of a mere visit, as this Court had shown some resentment that he should have been sent twice*

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. Oct. 21. "Order to be taken for entertaining the Prince of Anhalt."

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to France and not here. I am, however, assured that, besides returning thanks for the aid lent in the attack on Juliers, he is specially charged by the Protestant Princes to deal with the affairs of Germany, and to urge the despatch of the terms of the treaty. On this last point he will not have to trouble, for before his arrival, the articles, signed and settled, were sent to the Ambassador of his Majesty at Cologne. Every day the suspicions of the Princes of the Union are strengthened with regard to the Bavarian league and the armaments in the Duchy of Milan, nor does the agreement between the Emperor and Mathias trouble them little, nor yet the successes of Poland in Russia; they are, therefore, doing their best to support their general and their particular interests, and especially to fix the mind of Neuburg and divert him from any step which does not suit the needs of the times. Neuburg's claims to the guardianship of the young Count Palatine are well founded in the Imperial Constitutions, nevertheless the generality of the Princes are inclined to support the Duke of Deuxponts, who is at present in possession, declaring that the Edict does not touch cases where there is a will, nor was the testator's faculty restricted in this case; and so already the majority have sent to congratulate him, and perhaps they will try to secure the same in the name of the King of England, as has happened with France in order to damp the aspirations of the other party.

At Cologne they are engaged on the subject of Cleves and the whole business reduces itself to two points; the "possessorio" in which the Emperor claims that the Princes should hold Juliers in his name and admit his representative, and the "petitorio" in which the question arises whether the claims to the Duchies are to be considered by the Emperor and all the Princes or by the Emperor in more restricted Council. These points might easily be settled were it not that the prestige of the Emperor and of Spain are at stake. *It is thought, therefore, that the capture of Juliers is likely to bring more harm than good, and this I have from the lips of the Prince of Anhault, who also added that it had always been his view that they should accept the Duke of Saxony for the Duchy of Cleves and that now the other Princes began to see that he was right.*

There is not a thorough understanding between Brandenburg and Neuburg, though they jointly enjoy the State. They are at some places hard by Cologne so as to be able readily to send their Commissioners and to consult with their agents. While the general points are under discussion their particular claims remain undecided.

With the Archduke Albert all goes quietly. His last summer's levies are disbanded. He devotes his whole attention not only to the peace but to remove any shadow of warlike ideas.

Moris,* sent to the Margrave of Brandenburg with a present of horses and dogs, is only waiting fair weather, and I am assured that the mission does not extend beyond formal compliments.

Lord Wotton, returned from his Extraordinary Embassy to France, speaks in the highest terms of the King and gives clear indications of his satisfaction at the way he was treated. He professes himself particularly obliged by the courtesy of the Illustrious Ambassador Foscarini and of the gentlemen of his suite.

* Sir James Murray; *see* Cal. S.P. Dom., Oct. 18, 1810.

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Wotton ran great risk in crossing the sea and had to take some days' rest before coming on to London. He has not seen the King yet.

The King is quite restored in health. He will keep All Saints' in London and then return to Theobalds and Royston for the chase.

Parliament has begun to meet; owing to the absence of many leaders nothing has been done this week. I hear that they will have no less difficulty among themselves than they had in their negotiations with the King; for many wish to be exempt from the payment of the eight hundred thousand ducats voted to his Majesty and many claim damages for loss by the abolition of wardships.

By the King's orders the sentence of death on Captain Tomkins has been suspended. He is not without powerful supporters, as he is of excellent blood. I have been approached on the subject but I excused myself and will continue to take the course indicated for the dignity of the State and the service of the interested parties.

I have discovered *from an excellent quarter that the reply on the subject of the damages claimed in the case of the "Corsaletta" is not pleasing here. I will keep a watch and will not fail to make some suitable representations to remove the evil impression.*

London, 4th November, 1610.

[*Italian, the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

92. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Father Baldwin is still in the Tower. No resolution has been taken about him as yet. Perhaps they are waiting for the King's return.

Along with Lord Wotton there is come from France Casaubon, late Librarian of his most Christian Majesty. This is he who began to write in favour of your Serenity during the late controversy with the Pope. The King of England begged for him very earnestly and has given him a Canonry at Canterbury worth eight hundred crowns a year, and intends to employ him in many ways as Casaubon is versed in the sciences. He was born in Geneva, but I hear that he holds opinions not very far removed from the doctrine of the Roman Church. He has a son who publicly professes himself a convert of Cardinal du Perron. (*Con il Baron Wotton è venuto di Francia il Casaubon già Bibliotecario del Christianissimo, et è quello che comminicò a scriver in favore delle ragioni di V. Serenità nelle passate controversie con il Pontefice. E. Stato ricercato da questa Maestà con molto instanza, la quale gli ha destinato un canonicato in Canturberi di 800 s^di di rendita con pensiero di valersi di lui in molte cose per esser versatissimo nelle scienze. Nacque egli in Ginevra, tuttavia intendo che non è di opinione molto lontano dalli Dogmi della Chiesa Romana, et ha un figlio che fa publica professione di Catholico convertito dal Cardinale di Perona.*) *Casaubon had an interview with du Perron before leaving France, and I hear that the Queen gladly gave him leave to go, as she held that his visit would do her prestige good rather than harm.*

There have arrived from Flanders at the house of a very important person about 1,500 copies of a book printed in Latin

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and English attacking the King's book and the King's person. But this personage discovered it in time and burned them all; not so secretly, however, but that it reached the ears of Lord Salisbury. Another book has also fallen into Lord Salisbury's hands; it is in French and deals with the same subject and is directed with infinite scurrility against the King. It is apparently printed in Cologne, but is held for certain to be from France. The French Ambassador has sent his Secretary to Paris to use all diligence to find out the author.

London, 4th November, 1610.

[*Italian*; *the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 4. Senato Secreta. Despatches from Brescia. Venetian Archives.

93. The Governors of Brescia to the Doge and Senate.

This morning we have received letters from the Podestà and Captain of Crema informing us that late last night the English Ambassador arrived outside the town. The Podestà refused him leave to enter, and sent to ask us whether, if the Ambassador came on to Brescia, we would admit him there and whether, if the Ambassador wished to retrace his steps, he should let him do so. We replied that we were bound to obey the orders of the Sanitary authorities, and advised him to beg the Ambassador to await instructions from Venice.

Brescia, 4th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding dispatch.

94. Copy of a Letter to the Podesta and Captain of Crema.

Approving his action. He is to endeavour to keep the Ambassador in the lodgings prepared for him, and to find better if need be, so that he may be thoroughly satisfied. Not to let him depart on any consideration. Meantime are waiting orders by express. Enclose the orders of the Sanitary Commissioners as to quarantine. We expect that as a gentleman of sound judgement he will submit. At the conclusion of the quarantine or on receipt of other orders he may continue his journey. You will report to us. Until his quarantine is finished we cannot admit him to this city or territory.

Brescia, 4th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 5. Minutes of the Senate, Terra. Venetian Archives.

95. To the Podesta and Captain of Crema.

In reply to your letters of the 3rd which reached us this morning we, along with the Senate, order that as soon as this comes to your hands you are to see the English Ambassador and to say to him that the delay occasioned about his entry into that city is caused by the usual orders issued by the Sanitary authority and not from any desire to cause him annoyance or inconvenience. You will express this in such a way as to pacify his Lordship, and will say that we, having heard from you, have instructed you to remove all

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impediments and to allow him to proceed hither at once, where we will welcome him gladly and treat him in such a fashion as our respect for his Master the King requires. That in a matter of such moment as the public health he ought to agree, as indeed he must, that, with the exception of his personal effects and those of his suite, his other luggage should be left behind to be aired (*sborate*), and they will be sent on by you as soon as possible. We send these orders back by your messenger so that his Lordship may see our readiness to serve him in all that we properly can. These orders you will transmit to Brescia and other cities, so that he may be allowed to pass freely.

Ayes	75.	Second votes	61.	
Noes	26.		31.	Not carried.
Neutrals	52.		53.	

Put again :—

Ayes	101.
Noes	22.
Neutrals	29.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 6. Collegio, Lettere. Venetian Archives.

96. To the Rectors of Brescia.

Before we received your despatch of the 3rd about the passage through our territory of the English Ambassador we had already, on notice from the Captain and Podestà of Crema, voted that he was to be allowed free passage, without let or hindrance; these orders were sent express yesterday evening to Crema. These orders were repeated to the Rectors of Brescia.

The same to Verona, Vicenza and Padua.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 8. Senato Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

97. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Earl of Warwick has built at Leghorn a galleon of his own design for the Grand Duke. From Leghorn a ship has been sent to bring the rest of the English.

Florence, 8th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 9. Senato Secreta. Despatches from Brescia. Venetian Archives.

98. The Rectors of Brescia to the Doge and Senate.

Yesterday evening the English Ambassador arrived at a village three miles out of Brescia on the Crema road. He took lodging there as the hour was late, owing to the bad roads. This morning he sent his courier to announce his passage which he wished to make outside this city, and begging that orders be sent to Desenzano for his free passage and lodgement in that place. We at once assented, and told the courier that his Lordship could freely enter Brescia and use it as he might require, as it would be a favour to us to be allowed to visit him and serve his Excellency;

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and in the presence of the courier we at once sent our Vicar out of the city to wait on the Ambassador at his passing; but at the very moment the courier reached us the Ambassador had suddenly set forward and there was no time to pay this compliment.

We have informed the Rectors of Verona, as the Ambassador may arrive there on Friday or Saturday next.

Brescia, 9th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 9. Collegio, Lettere. Venetian Archives.

99. To the Podestà of Bassano.

The Master of the Imperial Post resident in Bassano has complained that, contrary to ordinary usage, you have kept the courier with despatches from England and Germany waiting a whole night outside the gates. We order you to open the gates, and give free passage to the courier at any hour of the night; for so the public service requires and so you will act.

Ayes 22.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

Covered by preceding dispatch.

100. Complaint presented by Ferdinando de Tassis, Imperial Post Master for Venetia, that the Podestà has threatened the Post Master of Bassano with prison and cord if he dares to wake the Podestà out of his sleep to open the gates and to let the mail from England and Germany through.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 11. Collegio, Lettere. Venetian Archives.

101. To the King of Great Britain.

Credentials for Antonio Foscarini.

Ayes 21.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

The same to the Queen and to the Prince of Wales.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 11. Collegio, Lettere. Venetian Archives.

102. Passport for Antonio Foscarini.

Ayes 21.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Latin and Italian.*]

Nov. 11. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives

103. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and when he had taken his seat the Doge enquired after the health of the "Viscount of Salisbury" and of his brother-in-law. The Ambassador replied that the Viscount was well and that his brother-in-law had had four paroxysms, but it was a simple tertian fever, without any bad symptoms, and so it was hoped he would soon be well. The

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Viscount, knowing that the Ambassador was to have audience that morning, had charged him to present his thanks for his kind reception by the Cabinet and for the visit of the Illustrious Sig. Guistinian, a gentleman of such excellent qualities, and so beloved at the English Court and so justly esteemed in Venice. Of all this these two gentlemen, although young, take count and are fully alive to the honours; they have written to Lord Salisbury. The Ambassador also feels a part of the obligation for the favours shown to gentlemen of his nation and will always insist on the courtesy received whenever occasion offers. The Doge replied, declaring that he hoped these gentlemen would recover their health entirely so that they might depart with full satisfaction. These courtesies did not merit such thanks; they were quite usual in the case of foreigners and were most willingly offered in the case of Lord Salisbury, who has displayed such affection towards the Republic. The Government desired to lend their assistance if anything further were required. The Ambassador said he had other thanks to offer, those of his successor for being relieved from the rules of the Sanitary Commission. The new Ambassador would be in Padua this evening or to-morrow, and Wotton was sending his secretary to wait on him. Tired with his long journey he had resented the prohibition imposed on him in Crema, as he had met with nothing like it in other towns. He wrote a letter of some heat to Wotton, but Wotton will inform him of the great favour shown him by his exemption from the Sanitary rules, and will point out that the rules themselves are good. "I am sure that as he has kept silence till now he will feel, as in duty bound, obliged by the favour."

The Doge replied that he regretted the incident at Crema, but as a matter of fact the Rector could not have acted otherwise than in execution of the orders of the Sanitary Officers, whom all obey. The Ambassador had arrived at the gate of Crema without any warning and without any of the usual certificates from Milan and Turin, through which he had passed, and this was the cause of the check. Nevertheless the Rector had seen to his lodging, service and all his need, so that his brief delay would really have served as a rest; nor can he have felt annoyance while waiting the reply of the Senate, which was that the rule should be relaxed and that the Ambassador should be free to come on at his pleasure. The Doge is informed that the new Ambassador is content, and, like a prudent man, has taken the episode at its true value.

The Ambassador went on to say that as the time of his departure was approaching when each Ambassador is wont to ask for favours from the princes whom they have served, he has been entreated by many to intercede for them. "I have examined these petitions and have excluded all immoral and infamous crimes. I have chosen one and I make myself suppliant therein, namely that your Serenity be pleased to set free Conte Benedetto Lombardo of Verona, condemned to prison for a pistol found on him. He was not sentenced directly by the Council of Ten but by the Rectors of Verona. There are many circumstances in his favour. He hurt no one, there are no civil or criminal suits against him; his habit of life is good. He is ill, as the medical certificate proves. As Theologians tell us here the greatest sin is disobedience; Adam was not punished so

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much for eating the apple as for disobeying the order. I trust your Serenity will cast a clement eye on the disobedience and take pity on the case. Should you not think fit to set the prisoner free yet I beg you to commute the punishment from imprisonment to one or two years' exile from Verona and the Veronese, which would meet the ends of justice. I earnestly implore your Serenity, and trust to be thus honoured as this is the last petition I shall present. Will your Serenity think of what I can do to serve you and honour me with your commands?"

The Doge replied that all were sorry for his departure, but since such was his wish they would preserve a loving memory of him. As to his petition it would be forwarded to the Ten. He must remind the Ambassador, however, that such commutations required a unanimous vote; one hostile vote upset them. Besides, three of the Ten were at present absent from the city. Anyhow, their intention was good and the desire to do him a pleasure. As to the actual case, his Serenity recalled that it happened recently, at night; if the gentleman had done no harm, all the same the pistol was loaded. The case was tried at Verona, but with the delegated authority of the Ten.

The Ambassador returned thanks and said he was not aware that in a case where no harm had been done unanimity of votes was needed.

He went on to say that he must impart an affair which he considered important, and which at least can not be displeasing to the Doge. An Englishman was captured and taken to Tunis, where there is a nest of pirates and ruffians. This man is a capable navigator and a person of note. He was compelled by the pirates to continue his profession, and he did so, and took out one of the ships and returned again to Barbary. He does not wish to continue this life, and writes to an English merchant here in Venice that he means to put out with his own and other ships from Tunis, and to sail for your Serenity's islands, and so place in your power the whole fleet. He asks for nothing but a safe conduct and security for his person, of all else your Serenity's officers shall dispose as they please. He has asked the merchant to inform me so that I may let you know. The merchant will be here to-morrow; I will have the name of the buccaneer and all particulars, and I will place them in the hands of the Secretary for your Serenity's full information.

The Doge replied that this was an important affair, and that the *Savii* would take it into consideration. It required maturity of council.

The Ambassador then asked for news of the King's health, as he had received no despatches that week. The Doge communicated Correr's despatches on that point.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 13. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

104. Commission to Antonio Foscarini, elected Ambassador to the King of Great Britain.

To go straight to England. To seek audience and to assure his Majesty of the continuance of good will. To visit the Queen and the Prince of Wales, the other Prince, and the Princess. As

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requested by Pope Clement VIII., where expedient Foscarini shall support the Catholics, but very cautiously; the present Pope has renewed the request. Foscarini is to take care not to disgust the King, and to confine himself to general terms, and then only when he is sure of benefiting the cause.

On the point of mutual reduction of customs Foscarini is referred to despatches of Dec. 30th and Feb. 5th, 1604.

Leave to keep in addition to the usual staff a chaplain and an interpreter of English. The chaplain to have for salary and board 186 ducats a year and the interpreter 100.

Foscarini's salary 200 ducats of gold, in gold a month worth seven lire each, without obligation to present accounts. He is to keep eleven horses, including the horse of his secretary and of the secretary's servant, and four grooms. Four months' pay is anticipated. Further, 1,000 golden ducats as donative in terms of the resolution of June 2, 1601. Further, 300 ducats of lire 6 soldi 4 for outfit.

The Secretary shall have 100 ducats as a donative and each of the Couriers 20 ducats.

One hundred and fifty ducats shall be anticipated as pay for couriers and messengers; of this an account shall be presented and the names of the couriers specified and the dates, as by resolution July 28th, 1609. For all extras of any sort soever forty ducats a month, four months anticipated. Plate may be taken to the value of four hundred ducats, at the risk of the State.

Order to pay all above sums to Foscarini's legal representatives.

Ayes 125. Noes 0. Neutrals 1. } Omitting clause about chaplain and interpreters as the members present did not reach 150.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 14. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Padua. Venetian Archives.

105. The Governors of Padua to the Doge and Senate.

Yesterday evening the English Ambassador arrived. He has his wife, his sister and some young ladies. He was lodged in a Palace of the Signori Boltari at the Eremitani. We sent him game, sweets and wine to the value of about 30 ducats; and after dinner went to visit him. The Ambassador met us at the foot of the staircase. He will wait here till his predecessor has cleared out of the Embassy.

Padua, 14th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 15. Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

106. Marc' Antonio Padovin, Venetian Secretary in Germany, to the Doge and Senate.

The question between England and the Hanseatic towns is deferred to a meeting to be held six months hence. If they cannot come to an agreement then the matter will be referred to an Imperial Diet.

Prague, 15th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

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Nov. 15.
Collegio, Lettere. Venetian Archives.

107. To the Rectors of Verona.

We send you copy of a memorial presented by the English Ambassador, in which he begs for the liberation of Count Benedetto Lombardo, of Verona, condemned to prison by you on the charge of carrying a pistol. You will send us the sentence and also your views on the liberation of Lombardo or the commutation of his imprisonment into banishment for one or two years from Verona and its territory, so that we may come to a resolution on the said petition.

Ayes 21.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 16.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

108. Michiel Priuli, Venetian Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

From an English merchant who arrived here in an English ship the day before yesterday I have learned that on Monday last the ship, when sixty miles away from this island, fell in with six *bertons* from Tunis whose commander he understood to be Ward (*Guarda*). One of the six *bertons* came within musket shot and ordered the Captain to strike sail and yield to the ships of the Grand Signor. The Captain replied that he obeyed no one but his own King. Those of the *berton* declared that if he fired a single shot they would all be made slaves; the Captain answered that if the *bertons* began he would reply. They stood by each other thus for about three hours, then night came on and a heavy sea and they parted company.

It is also rumoured that on the 8th of the present month a *berton* after firing four shots has captured near Portoterra in Cephalonia a French vessel which sailed from here with a cargo of currants for Marseilles.

Zante, 16th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 17.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

109. Andrea Gussoni, Augustino Nani, and Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassadors in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English ambassador here (Edmondes) is of opinion that the French will not abandon the Duke of Savoy; he thinks that it is the interest of other Princes to support him so that he may not fall into the hands of Spain; and as for the King his Master, even though far off he would be ready to play his part.

Paris, 17th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

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Nov. 17.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

110. Andrea Gussoni, Augustino Nani, and Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassadors in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of the United Provinces in his audience touched on the presence of the Swedish Embassy in Holland. It is to come to the French Court to propose a league and confederation such as was submitted to England and the States. The Queen shows little inclination and Villeroy has openly said that Charles is not the legitimate King of Sweden. The Swedes urge that both England and Holland treat Charles as true King.

Paris, 17th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

111. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Parliament has been very busy these last two weeks trying to find a way to raise the money voted to the King so as to satisfy the people and with due regard to the claims of many private individuals. His Majesty himself after his return to London, which took place on Tuesday of last week, addressed Parliament in a long discourse, setting forth the necessity of extraordinary expenditure at the present juncture and pressing for some resolution. No pains are spared to keep them to their promise of the eight hundred thousand ducats of yearly revenue. The expenses on the expedition to Juliers are represented as very heavy, the Crown debts are growing daily, the affairs of Germany may at any moment call for costly aid. On this very point his Majesty has held long consultations with his Council, and shows a desire that the speeches and debates in Parliament should not be published, as he holds that the freedom of speech recently employed does not redound to the credit either of the King or of the kingdom. So far matters do not begin to shape themselves, and it is possible that Parliament may close and all the labour prove in vain. Neither this business nor that of the Prince of Anhault—of which your Serenity shall hear in my next—will prevent the King from leaving in four days for his annual hunting at Royston and Newmarket, where he will stay till the approaching Christmas. Meantime the burden of business lies on the Earl of Salisbury and the Council, who by means of couriers inform the King of all that is needful and receive his orders.

While the Duke of Savoy has been negotiating a marriage with France the Spanish, in order to break up the negotiations, have several times made offers to his Majesty to use their influence to marry the Princess of England to the Prince of Savoy, and this is the reason why the King has never believed that the negotiations with his most Christian Majesty will really take effect. I am now told by a person who has knowledge of all these matters that the Spanish Ambassador has again renewed the offer. The Queen is much inclined to this match, as the Princess is now marriageable and it is not easy to see with whom other she can be united, but the King, whose mind is more hostile to Catholicism and who would like to increase his influence with the Protestants, leans more to the Count Palatine. In his favour all

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the German Princes will intervene, for they would be sorry to see this question resolved by the King of Spain, and it is the opinion of many that before he leaves the Prince of Anhault will touch on the matter.

Some merchants who had a vessel of theirs seized by the Sicilian galleys, failing to recover it, although the Viceroy's sentence was quashed in Spain on the ground that the evidence of the sailors was wrung from them by torture under which some of them died, have now put out to the Indian Sea in two good ships, *not without permission of the Council.* They have made reprisals of a Spanish ship which had on board a cargo worth about forty thousand ducats. The Spanish Ambassador has lodged a complaint and demands that, in virtue of the Capitulations, the ship should be given over to him. It was resolved that all should be warehoused till the case could be settled; but both the Ambassador and the merchants having sent persons down to the coast to estimate the value of the goods, they, on their own responsibility, put the goods up to auction and knocked them down for a third of their value to creatures of the merchants, and, before the Ambassador could be informed, the goods were shipped to Flanders and elsewhere out of the kingdom.

In the recent bad weather a Dutch ship* which, as I understand, had embarked at Zante certain subjects of your Serenity and some currants for Amsterdam, ran upon a shoal off this Island, and after loosing her rudder was found upon the shore, and without a soul on board. I hoped that they might have been saved by some other ship, but as her boat was found later on it is taken for certain that they have all perished. As soon as I had news of this I appealed to the King for an order sequestrating the ship and directing an inventory to be made; the Admiralty had refused to grant this request, as both the Lord High Admiral and the Earl of Arundel, within whose jurisdiction the wreck took place, pretend that it belongs to them in virtue of a law which so rules it in cases where neither human being, dog, nor cat are found on board. I urged upon his Majesty that this law was not intended to rob the owner, but only to provide for the case where it was impossible to discover the owner; that I now appeared in the name of the unhappy wives and children; that I was sure that if in addition to the sea they should find an enemy in the law of England his Majesty's pity would not fail them. I added that on other occasions the law had not been put into effect, and I offered to cite precedents. All I asked now was the sequestration and the inventory, so as not to close the door to those unhappy people for the recovery of the little that the sea had left them. I found the King well informed about the matter; he said that the Admiral and Earl of Arundel were contending over this wreck; that as the law was opposed to my request the way of grace must be adopted. I said I accepted the offer either for grace or for justice, and I never doubted but that so piteous a case would meet with his Majesty's protection. Later on Lord Salisbury told me to address myself to the Admiral and to the Earl of Arundel, to both of whom the King had spoken. These gentlemen promised to oblige me in so sad a case, but, in order not

* The "Red Camel." *See* infra No. 115.

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to prejudice their rights, they refused inventory, housing and examination of marks; they deny that any book of the cargo has been found. I have written to the Governor of Zante for information, nor will I allow the matter to drop, and I will conduct it either by way of justice or of grace; but the distance whence information has to come and the power of these gentlemen form serious obstacles to the recovery of the goods.

I thought it desirable to impress on his Majesty the reasons why it is impossible to satisfy the merchant Cordall for the seizure of the "Corsaletta," as the refusal in this matter had, I am told, produced a bad effect in his mind. I expressed your Serenity's regrets at your inability to oblige his Majesty; that everything that his Ambassador had asked was granted at once. As to the redintegration of the ships and goods, I said the whole matter reduced itself to the point: "Was the ship rightly seized or no?" "Yes," said his Majesty, "that is the point." I then said: "Sire, the English deny that they offered resistance to being searched, that they acted hostilely, that they laded currants at any Venetian port; on the other hand the Senate assures your Majesty, on the strength of repeated evidence and on the testimony of those worthy of belief, that the ship fled as far as she could, that she offered resistance with her guns as long as they found themselves face to face with a single galley; that if they laded currants in Turkish ports nevertheless those currants had been furtively conveyed from Zante, and though they may have delayed the punishment they have not diminished the crime, for *agentes et consentientes pari pœna puniuntur*. That the evidence here was confined to a few men, partly guilty themselves, partly bound to the guilty, and to the owner of the goods, while your Serenity had the full evidence of the large number of persons on board the galleys." I concluded that just as the Senate had accepted the declaration of Wotton that the ship had never committed piracy, so, I took it, would his Majesty accept this statement for the truth and remain satisfied. The King replied: "It is a merchant's business to seek his own advantage; and without most convincing proof I shall not lend them credence; nor will I ever doubt the justice and good-will of the Republic." I then recommended the case of Giovanni Antonio Tizzoni. Gibbons, whom the King had caused to be arrested in Scotland, had fled before Tizzoni could present a statement of the value of the wine, and although I succeeded in making the governor of the prison responsible, still, as Gibbons had not been declared a debtor it was impossible to proceed against the jailer. The other jailer, who had special charge of Gibbons, has been put in prison at my request, and there he has ended his days.

London, 18th November, 1610.

[*Italian*; *the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

112. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The day after the King's return to London the Prince of Anhault and a young man, his nephew on his brother's side, were received in private audience, and afterwards his Majesty bade them

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to dinner with him, bestowing on them marks of affection and regard. After compliments the Prince, *in a place apart, dwelt at length on the needs of the Protestant Union; he explained the difficulties in the way of an arrangement with the Emperor and the Duke of Saxony, and the dread which during the last months has weighed upon them lest an open split should take place between Lutherans and Catholics if the Duke of Neuburg should accept the offers made him and attach himself to Saxony, it being certain that if the dread of the Pope were removed that city would draw to the Catholics' rather than to the Calvinist side. That is all the more likely to happen now that Neuburg knows quite well that the Princes of the Union just as they have, on the grounds of religion, preferred Deux-ponts to Neuburg as guardian of the young Count Palatine, so will they rather see Brandenburg in possession of Cleves while giving Neuburg some fair compensation. For the states of Cleves and Juliers, owing to their geographical position, are considered peculiarly adapted to unite Germany with the Low Countries and with the Princes over seas. On these considerations and by dwelling on the aims of the League of Mainz and the object of the armaments in the Milanese, the Prince of Anhault urged the King to take a lively interest in the matter, and to come to a resolve to place himself at the head of the Protestant Union and to take the Protestant Princes under his protection; this desire has grown stronger since the dissolution of the Congress of Cologne, and since it is known that the French Ambassador, arrived at Düsseldorf, would not stay there along with the other Envoys, but returned immediately to France, which left the Protestants little hope that they could in any way reckon on aid from the French Crown.*

On this same matter of the League and on the subject of Swedish requests to the King as regards the differences between Sweden and Denmark there is here at present a Danish gentleman. I hear that he has made representations to the King that he should not merely not oppose the interests of Saxony, their common brother-in-law, but should use his influence to secure his being admitted as a "Possessioner" along with the other two Princes; this is held to be the only way to settle the difficulty and to avoid a war. The King is determined to support, as far as possible, the cause of these Princes, but he wishes them to adopt a policy that will ensure peace; he is most unwilling to take upon his shoulders the whole burden of affairs; he lays stress on the fact that though the League is formed merely for defence, little could be expected from Denmark and Sweden, while the other Princes of Germany have shown themselves too weak in the recent affair of Juliers; that without a strong nucleus of foreign auxiliaries they could not make much resistance to any attack from the opposite party. His Majesty must, therefore, either spend a large sum of money, a thing he is not likely to do, or must reap little honour from his assistance. On these grounds and owing to the hope that on the fall of Juliers all cause for war would cease, his Majesty delayed the signing of the terms of treaty and has sent them now in a modified form. The Protestants will not fail to meet the King's wishes, and so it is held for certain that the League will be stipulated between him, Denmark, Sweden and Holland before the Prince of Anhault takes his leave. The Prince has sent an account of all his negotiations to Düsseldorf. Meantime

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it has been settled that, in order to avoid divisions among the Protestants, the King shall secure the recognition of Saxony as one of the "Possessioners." Neuburg and Brandenburg have hitherto shown themselves opposed to this, as they think that the fruit of so much toil and expense should not be shared with another.

Yesterday came news that between the Bavarian Convention and the League negotiations had passed which gave security for peace; there was also appearance of new life in the Cologne Convention. This has been welcomed here.

It has come to the King's knowledge that your Serenity has prohibited Bellarmin's reply to a work by Barclay, printed in this Kingdom, in which reply the Cardinal attributes to the Pontiff temporal sorreignty. The King is highly pleased, as I am informed by persons of importance and intimate with his Majesty.

London, 18th November, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 19. Collegio, Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

113. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

He reports the good health of the two English gentlemen guests in his house, and announces their intention of going to see the Fortress of Palma, Udine, and Treviso.

He then went on to renew his petition in favour of the Prince de Joinville, who, as Wotton's brother writes from Paris, still wishes to enter the service of Venice. The King of England has given Wotton express orders to support the request. Wotton foresees two possible objections—the Prince is all that is well-born, valorous, etc., but who will guarantee that if engaged he will really serve if need arise; Wotton answers that if, as was the fact, the Prince offered to serve at the time of the late controversies when he was in no sense bound, so much more may he be trusted to do so when he is really engaged. The second objection is that the Republic is at peace; to this Wotton replies, Yes, but even though at peace your arsenal goes on working. "If your Serenity cannot grant my request will you instruct your Ambassador Guistinian when he arrives in Paris to inform the Prince that at least I made it?"

The Doge replied that in addition to the objections considered by the Ambassador there are others. However what cannot be done one day may be done another. As to informing the Prince orders had already been given more than once.

The Ambassador went on to say that at his last audience he had mentioned the affair of a pirate, as he bad thought that his Serenity ought to know about it. He had now brought a note of particulars extracted from the letters of merchants, and this note he would leave for their consideration. The plan is feasible, nor does the offerer ask aught but his personal safety.

The note contained the name of the Englishman who offered the service. He was Randolph Jesson. He was taken, on the 16th of July last, by two Turkish galleys in the Barbary waters and brought to Tripoli. He is about thirty-five years of age; very skilled in all matters of navigation. He acquired fame among the pirates, who

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put him in charge of five of their ships. If he succeeds in his design he asks nothing but his freedom; he has always been an honest man, and has been forced to follow his present career.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 23. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Crema. Venetian Archives.

114. Francesco Zen, Governor in Crema, to the Doge and Senate.

After the departure of the English Ambassador, of which I gave an account in my despatch of the 7th,* an innkeeper of this city came to me and said that during the six days the Ambassador was stayed here, he had supplied his suite and fed his horses and coachmen, on orders of the Ambassador's Majordomo. At his departure, the host presented an account for 700 lire about, and the Ambassador told him to come to me, and that if I would not pay him he should come on to Venice or send an agent, when the bill would be discharged. At such a claim, which seems to me very strange, I was amazed; for as I had made his Excellency a present of refreshments he could quite well gather from that that I had no orders to be at charges for him, and had I had such orders the Ambassador would have been more civilly served than by a taverner. Feeling sure that a gentleman of his rank would not have acted thus without some grounds, I determined to go deeper into the matter, and I consulted with the two gentlemen I had appointed to wait on the Ambassador, and I learn from them that when the Ambassador complained of the heavy expense to which he was put by this delay in his journey, epecially for the hired carriages, they, to end the matter courteously, had held out hopes that your Serenity would not allow him to be put to such charges. I take it that the Ambassador desired to see whether this were true. I have induced the taverner not to trouble his Excellency at once at Venice, but to give him a few days' rest.

Crema, 23rd November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

115. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Yesterday the Prince of Anhault left the Court, where he has created an excellent impression by his negotiations and a high esteem for himself. He has received from the King a diamond jewel, and from the Prince several horses and dogs. He goes straight to Holland in a well-armed pinnace sent for him by the States. He will proceed at once to the Hague, where he is awaited by the Protestant Members of the Cologne Convention. With the others went M. de Boissise, French Ambassador, *who nurses hopes that it may be possible to find a way to adjust the claims on Cleves. Many of the Protestant Princes, and especially Anhault, are in favour of admitting Saxony as a "possessioner," though this will meet with opposition from Brandenburg and Neuburg. The Protestants were in great dread of a combination of the Imperial and Spanish arms with*

* Despatch missing.

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those of the League of Mainz; without the latter they don't think that the Spanish will move, while Imperial arms may be neglected, being weak in themselves, and the Emperor being resolved to spend not a penny more. The King of England continues to desire peace, and has made vigorous representations in favour of it to the Prince of Anhault. He wishes Saxony to be admitted a "possessioner" with obligation to pay only future, not past expenses. He has always shown repugnance to contribute to expenses which have tended to injure the Emperor.

At the Hague they will complete the treaty, as sufficient power has been sent by the King to his Ambassador. I am told, however, that the question is one of a simple defensive alliance, and that his Majesty will not be more deeply engaged than any other party; he stands firm in declining to allow himself to be made head.

The Danish gentleman has gone back to Denmark. He has received presents to the value of two thousand crowns. I understand that the Swedish Envoys have left the Hague without concluding anything. These Potentates know that little is to be looked for from that quarter, while the obligations would be serious owing to the successful progress of the Poles. At present, under orders from the Prince of Anhault, they are fortifying the castle of Juliers and are arming the city walls with ramparts and flanking works in such a way that there will not be a palm of ground that will not be covered by three or four defences; the Prince himself showed me a design of the place.

The business of Wardship and Purveyance is, as far as I gather, completely suspended. The Parliament has met great difficulty in raising the eight hundred thousand ducats of annual revenue promised to the King, *who is almost sorry that he has deprived himself of such noble prerogatives* and has made fresh demands for two millions of gold, payable in two years, to extinguish his own debts, and one hundred and sixty thousand to pay off certain officials of the Court of Wards. The King now asks for the ordinary subsidies with the intention of dissolving Parliament; but neither here does he find readiness, for Parliament is little satisfied and will renew its demand for the abolition of burdens imposed by the Royal authority only; they amount to four hundred thousand ducats a year; there is, however, no doubt but that they will end by gratifying his Majesty. On this ground only has he stayed on in London three days longer than he intended. He will leave for Royston on Saturday, and the Prince will go with him for a couple of weeks, as he must come back to arrange a Masque for Christmas. He would have liked to present this Masque on horseback could he have obtained the King's consent.

His Highness has begun to draw not only the lesser revenues of the Principality of Wales, but also other revenues the larger part drawn from land to the amount of about one hundred and sixty thousand ducats, as he exercises a certain jurisdiction in the Principality. He is now arranging his household and appointing his officers and gentlemen;* there are infinite offers from gentlemen who vie with one another in desiring admission, and yet there is not one who dares to attempt the way of favouritism, for although his Highness does nothing without the King's permission, yet he is extremely particular

* *See* Birch, "Life of Henry, Prince of Wales," *p.* 209.

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that everything shall be the result of his own choice. His Majesty is very desirous that care should be taken *to admit no Catholics, and this he has raised as an objection to the appointment of a very important personage as revisor of the accounts.* This, and the difficulty of satisfying the demands of many persons, has caused his Highness to dismiss every one for the present. His decision will be published later on, probably when no one is expecting it.

I have dealt several times with the affairs of the Zante merchants owners of the currants found on board the "Red Camel." I am informed that in great part they belonged to Messer Zorzi Balsamo; but as I have no proof, nor marks, nor countersigns, the Earl of Arundel, as lord of the manor, has taken possession of the goods and replies to my claims that when I have evidence enough he will not fail to satisfy my demands out of pure courtesy. Meantime in order to preserve his rights he has refused to house or to make inventory of the goods along with my agents; nor can one hinder the sale, especially as the goods have obviously suffered.

The plague, thank God, is so far diminished as to be all but extinct. This week's bulletin gives only twenty-two deaths, and that in a population of such size is considered as nothing.

I have received your Serenity's despatch of the 28th of last month authorizing me to continue the usual present to the Master of the Ceremonies and other Court officials. I can assure you it will be money well employed.

London, 25th November, 1610.

[*Italian: the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 26. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

116. The Secretary of the English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and said:—

The "Viscount of Salisbury" has made up his mind to return next week to England, and desires to come to-morrow to take his leave; as he has not seen the Great Council, if it were your good pleasure he would come on Sunday.

The Secretary added that the Ambassador before his departure earnestly desired that his last petition, in favour of Count Benedetto Lombardi of Verona, should be granted so that he might leave Venice both consoled and obliged, and he charged the Secretary to mention the petition. The Doge replied that the Viscount would always be welcome and as to the petition a reply would be given.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 26. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

117. The Ambassadors to England, Molin, Giustinian, and Correr have hitherto had attached to their mission a chaplain and an interpreter; the cost of these has been charged to extraordinary expenses and allowed by the government. That is no longer possible in face of the regulation of 28th July, 1609, which disallows all extras except couriers and messengers. We must, therefore, make some fresh provision for Antonio Foscarini, Ambassador-elect to England.

Be it moved that Foscarini and his successors, in addition to their usual staff, may have a chaplain at a salary of ten ducats a month

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and an interpreter at seven ducats a month; they are to be fed at the Ambassador's charges and he may enter the cost in his extras.

The above motion was put in the Cabinet on Sept. 9, 1607, and votes fell

Ayes	16.	Second vote,	Ayes	13.
Noes	1.		Noes	2.
Neutrals	5.		Neutrals	8.

It was now amended as follows:—

That the Ambassador Foscarini and his successors, in addition to their usual staff, be allowed a chaplain and an interpreter, and that for their salaries and board be assigned out of the public moneys one hundred and eighty six ducats a year for the chaplain and one hundred ducats a year for the interpreter.

Voted in the Cabinet on Sept. 11th, 1610, with

Ayes 19.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 1.

Voted in the Senate under date.

Ayes 149.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 27. Minutes of the Senate, Terra. Venetian Archives.

118. As the English Ambassador himself and by his Secretary earnestly requested that, as a special favour to himself on his departure from this city at the close of his mission which has lasted six years, Count Benedetto Lombardi of Verona, condemned by the Captain of Verona to imprisonment for life for the reasons set forth in the answer and sentence just read, be set free or that his punishment be commuted to banishment for a stated period; seeing that it is desirable to gratify an Envoy of so powerful a Sovereign and one who depends on the Earl of Salisbury, the most favoured Minister of that Sovereign, so that he may depart content:

Motion is made that the sentence on Count Benedetto Lombardi be commuted to four years' reclusion in the fortress of Palma, with orders to report himself at least once a week to the Governor. If during this period he absent himself from the fortress he shall at once fall under the outlawry pronounced upon him by the sentence of August 23rd, 1610. That this order be communicated to the Captain of Verona and wherever else may be necessary and registered and communicated to the English Ambassador as a thing done to please him.

26th of November in the Cabinet.

Ayes	12.	
Noes	1.	Not carried.
Neutrals	3.	

Second vote:—

Ayes	15.	
Noes	3.	Carried.
Neutrals	0.	

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Reballoted, as it was declared that the *Savii agli ordini* are to vote.

Ayes 17.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 0.

Put in the Senate:—

Ayes 124.
Noes 22.
Neutrals 9.

As it required five-sixths to carry the motion it was voted a second time.

Ayes 126.
Noes 18.
Neutrals 7.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 27. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

119. Instructions to Antonio Pisani, appointed Captain of the Great Galleys.

In case of falling in with *bertons* or such like Westerlings, they are to be searched. If found to be pirates or to have done damage, they are to be treated as by the custom of war. In cases of doubt as to whether the ship is a pirate the ship shall be kept, dismantled, and the crew detained, and the goods warehoused till further orders. Minutes of the investigation and inventories of goods to be sent to Venice. In the case of frigates (*Fregate*) or other armed vessels bearing commission of other Sovereigns or their Ministers, if they have done no damage to our places or subjects, they are to be left free and to go their ways, but if they have done damage they are to be dismantled, an inquiry shall be held and the minutes and inventory of goods sent to Venice.

As to English ships a copy of the orders of the Senate of 24th Sept., 1605, is enclosed.

Ayes 126.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 27. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

120. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Owing to the stormy weather a privateer belonging to the gang commanded by Ward has been wrecked on the shoals off Clarentza; they say she had a crew of one hundred and twenty Turks and fifteen English. On hearing this I convened the Council of Twelve, which determined to send out to examine the wreck. The commissioners will sail to-night.

To-day comes news that off Sapienza there is another wreck of a pirate also belonging to Ward, but commanded by Achmet Rais. She had a crew of ninety, of whom fifteen are drowned. For this

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case also I have summoned the Council of Twelve, which determined not to send to examine this wreck. I send this news that your Serenity may understand that this thief of a Ward both by fire and by wreck is in a bad way; which we must hold to be God's handiwork.

Zante, 27th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 29. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

121. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

To-day the boats I sent to examine the wreck off Clarentza have returned. They have towed the wreck into this port. There was not a soul on board her, for they were all taken, along with the artillery and the best of her cargo, by the son of the Bey of the Morea. He holds them all safe in his Sanjak; they numbered one hundred and twenty in all, including twenty English and the remainder Greeks and Turks. The ship herself is a French *saetta* captured by Ward. From an inventory made by my orders nothing was found in her but some biscuits and some stone cannon balls. Thank God for the ruin of this pirate. I have reported to the *Bailo* at Canstantinople that he may make due complaint of the Bey of the Morea for sheltering pirates.

Zante, 29th November, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 30. Collegio, Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

122. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

"Most Serene Prince, these two Englishmen (Cranborne and Howard) have started on their journey and have begged me to render infinite thanks to your Serenity for the high honour and favour they have met with in this city, for which they bear away with them eternal gratitude. The Viscount has already written twice to his father, so that he may make acknowledgment to the Venetian Ambassador in England. The Earl will certainly do so, for among his other noble qualities he prides himself on his gratitude, a virtue highly esteemed by us."

The Ambassador returns thanks for the favour shown him by the commutation of the imprisonment for life inflicted on Count Benedetto Lombardi into four years' relegation to the fortress of Palma; but seeing that his petition had not been granted in full he was rather disappointed until he considered that the offence of the Count was recent and the sentence but lately passed, that the government was prudent and that some show of punishment must be maintained; considering also that such graces are not easily granted, the Ambassador felt consoled; nevertheless, on the eve of his departure after a service of six years and three months he

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thought he was entitled to beg that the relegation to Palma be converted into banishment; in this way justice would still be satisfied, as there would still be a certain mark of castigation.

The Doge said he was glad the English gentlemen had good weather for their journey and that they were satisfied with the little that had been done for them out of regard for themselves and for Lord Salisbury. As to the grace the Ambassador may rest assured that it is an extraordinary one and he may well be proud of obtaining it. The case was recent and very grave, and the commutation from perpetual imprisonment to four years' relegation at Palma—a very garden one might say, and as it were his own home—may be considered one of the very highest favours that could be conferred. "That your Lordship may see how seriously we consider this crime of carrying a pistol we may tell you that for merely having a pistol on him, without having committed any excess, but merely out of youthful caprice, while going from one house to another, a few days ago the Council of Ten condemned to imprisonment for life one of our own nobles of the house of Malipiero, and there he will stay for life; nevertheless in spite of the gravity of the offence and in spite of the high majority required to carry such a grace the Senate to oblige your Lordship has voted this commutation, which one may say amounts to setting the Count at liberty, for he has to stay in Palma, a spacious fortress where the air is better than at Verona, and for four years only instead of in a close prison for life; so that to us it seems that this grace is so signal that that gentleman ought to be eternally obliged to you, and your Lordship should be content nor seek for more."

The illustrious Signor Giacomo da Pesaro here whispered to the Doge that the Ambassador's request would amount to grace on grace and would require a still higher majority. His Serenity added "Yes, as this gentleman near me rightly suggests, this would be grace on grace, and as our law requires a still higher majority the result may be considered impossible rather than difficult. The present grace was only obtained with difficulty after several ballots, and only granted out of a desire to gratify your Lordship and to mark our regard for your person."

The Ambassador said that he recognised the enormity of the crime and the greatness of the favour. If ordered not to ask for more he would rest quite content, but still if the full grace could be conceded he would hold it for the culmination of his debt, and if it be possible he begged that he might be laid under this further obligation.

The Doge said that they had made what seemed a suitable answer; if the Cabinet, however, should deem it expedient to do more it will take what steps it thinks fit; but it is difficult to see how the Senate can do more, and the Ambassador has every reason to be satisfied.

The Ambassador said he was aware of his obligation, but if it were found possible to do more in this case he recommended it to the Doge. He took his leave, but with no show of content.

[*Italian.*]

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Dec. 1.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from the Proveditore Generale di Candia. Venetian Archives.

123. Girolamo Capello, Governor in Crete, to the Doge and Senate.

Announces the arrival of five fugitives from the galleons. They were at once sent to the lazaretto under pretext of quarantine, but really to have them safely in hand, for some of them are Venetian subjects.

Candia, the first of December, 1610.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Enclosed in preceding Despatch.

124. Depositions of the Fugitives.

They had landed from galleons of the Grand Duke of Tuscany which had sailed from Leghorn fourteen months before, on a privateering expedition to the Levant. Among the prisoners was one called William Emis, an Englishman, from London.

Asked how and whence he came on board the galleons, he said "We were bound for Cyprus on board our own ship; we fell in with the galleons; they took me by force"; asked what was his calling, he answered "Gunner"; asked what pay he had, he answered "None."

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 2.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

125. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King has been much gratified by the kindly and honourable reception which your Serenity has given to the son of the Earl of Salisbury and to the son of the Great Chamberlain. He liked seeing the letters written by the Ambassador and by the Viscount himself. He noted the expressions used and the account of the reception, and all the other details described in the letters. He praises and appreciates these marks of regard all the more highly seeing that in Milan not only did they receive no favours but while halting there the principal person of their suite, the Viscount's Governor, was arrested on a denunciation for carrying a pistol. On Sunday his Majesty expressly sent Lord Hay (*Baron d'Ee*), gentleman of the bedchamber and a prime favourite, to assure me how much he appreciated this courtesy towards his subjects. Lord Hay was pleased to find me with the Ambassadors of France and Holland and in the presence of many gentlemen, so that his representations were the more conspicuous. After expressing abundant thanks he went on to say that I should assure your Serenity that his Majesty had a long memory, and that no subject of yours would ever come to this Kingdom without receiving similar courtesies. He wished in order to prove his gratitude that I should ask him some favour. This he said twice over. He also begged me to inform your Serenity so that this might be published abroad, so that all might know the esteem in which he holds your Serenity and also the Viscount, whom, after his own sons, he placed before every one.

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The Ambassador returned formal thanks, and as to the suggestion that he should ask a favour he said that he had nothing more at heart than to convince the King that he had no friend more loyal than the Republic, and the favour was taken as granted.

Lord Salisbury and the Chamberlain have also thanked me.

No further news from Germany or Holland.

All the royal family left London on Saturday last; but I hear the Queen does not like the air of Greenwich at this season and will come back soon. The King is pleased that at the approaching Christmas she should give another Masque of Ladies; it will precede the Prince's Masque, and neither will be so costly as last year's, which to say sooth were excessively costly.

While all negotiations as to the abolition of wardships have been suspended, and it was supposed that his Majesty had renounced the idea of abandoning his protective rights, he, after some skilful secret manipulation, summoned thirty Members of Parliament to his presence and after exhorting them to speak freely, not as if speaking to their King but to one who with them had the welfare of the Kingdom at heart, he dealt with them so kindly that he captivated the mind and the will of all. The substance of his discourse was to ask them whether they would help him in his straits; the Members urged that his difficulties were voluntary, all the same they gave an answer that left good hopes of the conclusion of the matter. I hear, however, that Parliament is very angry that the thirty Members have gone beyond the mere hearing and reporting the King's proposals, and if they are not punished it will be thanks to their number.

The Prince has applied to Parliament for certain privileges enjoyed by his predecessors; he will meet no opposition, as everyone is anxious to please him.

Casaubon, who came from France, cannot make up his mind to accept the very considerable inducements offered him to keep him in this country, or at least feigns not to, perhaps in the hope of getting more. It seems that before returning he is waiting the release of Malveno,* a Scot of learning and remarkable genius, who has been in the Tower for four years for having offended by his vivacity the religion the King professes. The Duke de Bouillon begs for him to put him in the University of Sedan.

The Chancellor of Scotland has begged for the release of the ex-President (Elphinstone). He hopes in time to recover some of his property.

They are proceeding against Catholics with unusual rigour. The oath is being administered everywhere, especially to recusants. They are trying to lay their hands on priests. Six were arrested last Sunday in London, and another has been hung and quartered in Oxfordshire. The protection of many great men and all his many friends failed to save his life.

London, 2nd December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

* Andrew Melville or Melvin. He was tried in April, 1606, and committed to the Tower. *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1603-1610, p. 354. *See* Gardiner, History of England, I., 319.

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Dec. 2.
Minutes of the Senate, Terra. Venetian Archives.

126. That ninety-five ducats of lire 6 soldi 4 the ducat be voted to Moderante Scaramelli for his journey to France, where he has gone to act as Secretary to Antonio Foscarini, appointed Ambassador in England.

Ayes 136.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 2.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

127. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Parliament of Paris condemns Bellarmin's book "Tractatus de potestate summi Pontificis in temporalibus adversus Guillelmum Barclaium." It was first proposed to treat it as Mariana's book was treated; but on its being pointed out what an uproar it would cause throughout the world to send the book round the town in the car of infamy and then to burn it by the hands of the common executioner, it was resolved to prohibit it.

Paris, 2nd December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 3.
Collegio, Lettere. Venetian Archives.

128. Letters patent announcing that, in gratification of the Ambassador of England, the sentence of imprisonment for life pronounced on Count Benedetto Lombardo by the Captain of Verona, in date 23rd August, 1610, be commuted into four years' relegation to the fortress of Palma.

[*Latin and Italian.*]

Dec. 7.
Collegio, Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

129. There came to public audience in the Cabinet Sir Dudley (*Rudhyum*) Carleton, Ambassador of his Majesty the King of England, along with his predecessor, both of them escorted by the Illustrious Chevalier Soranzo and a goodly number of Senators, as is usual. When each had kissed his Serenity's robe, and had been received with the wonted benignity, they took their seats and the retiring Ambassador Wotton said:—

"Serene Prince and Illustrious and Excellent Lords, his Majesty has charged me with a double duty this morning; one is to present my successor, whom it has pleased his Majesty to choose from among the chief and dearest of his subjects; he is of his Majesty's Privy Council, and holds the post of Chief Secretary in Ireland, and this to show the great esteem which he feels for the Serene Republic. His Majesty's choice is excellent and he is highly pleased with it; it is to be hoped that your Serenity and your Lordships will share these sentiments during the whole time of his stay in this post, both because of his great qualities and his judgement and because he is so well informed as to his Majesty's excellent disposition towards this Serene Dominion.

"My second duty is to assure your Serenity of his Majesty's firm intent to preserve at all times and on all occasions his union and friendship with this Serene Dominion of the closest and sincerest nature. It is well that there should be present at this declaration

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a larger audience than usual; for his Majesty desires that every Prince, every nation, the whole world should be assured of this his immutable will, and he desires me to declare it in so public an audience as that no one may think that a change of Minister would imply a change in this good relationship. Should any one hold that a change of instrument means a change of attitude that would certainly be unsound reasoning. These representations are probably unnecessary, thanks to the great frankness with which his Majesty treats all his allies, still, for his further satisfaction, he desires me to make them; he specially adds—and these are the very words of his letter if my memory serves me—that as it was a great satisfaction to him to establish a good understanding with this Republic and as in the past he has shown his readiness to serve the good, the glory, the interests of this Serene Dominion, so he will ever embrace every way and means to daily bind and join himself more nearly to so great a Republic, esteeming it a high honour for his Crown to have so loving an alliance with a Republic which for antiquity, nobility, power, prudence, wisdom and marvel of its government, is the greatest and most glorious Republic the world has ever seen. His Majesty is well assured that these sentiments are returned by your Serenity; as you keep an Ambassador in ordinary at his Court he wishes to keep one at yours as a pledge and living testimony of his sincere affection and as an instrument to preserve and increase, if it be possible, the reciprocal goodwill, to the greatness and benefit of both States. During my residence here I have done what I could to foster so kindly a goodwill and friendship.

"Will your Serenity be pleased to hear from my successor his commission, which as coming from the same Prince and inspired by the same intention, must be in substance the same as what I have just put forward."

The new Ambassador then said that he thought it an honour and a favour to have been appointed to serve so great a Republic, but before going further he would present his credentials. When they had been read he added that the King of Great Britain preserved for the Republic the most affectionate, ready and sincere goodwill. "He is much consoled by the good return he meets with from your Serenity. My predecessor has received permission to return home on account of his private affairs and also because his Majesty desires to employ him elsewhere, and I have been appointed to fill his place; nor will this make any difference, except that in place of a person, adorned with great parts, worth, and ability, I am here a weakling with no other adornment than an excellent goodwill and the highest reverence for your Serenity. My Master in sending me has sent a faithful servant and a true Englishman, desiring to prove to your Serenity how real, sincere and well founded this friendship is which he desires to preserve for ever without the slightest diminution. I have this consolation, that I am not sent as an Ambassador from a Prince who has differences to adjust, nor any other relations except those of sincere goodwill. So that my duty will be confined to confirming and augmenting this goodwill rather than to any other subjects. I assure your Serenity I shall not fail in my duty, and I beg your Serenity to

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interpret kindly my acts, as they will always be inspired by the highest regard for and a vivid desire to serve this Serene Dominion. His Majesty especially charged me to make this declaration." The Ambassador then goes on to praise the Ambassador Correr. "On my way through France I received from the Ambassador Foscarini every attention and the same from the Ambassador Barbarigo in Savoy; and on entering the States of your Serenity your officers have shown me all honour and favour, all of which serves as a proof of the Republic's goodwill towards his Majesty. I render thanks to your Serenity and will report all to his Majesty, and I beg your Serenity to be pleased to accept my devotion during the time of my stay in this office, excusing my defects and being certain that I will serve you with all reverence as is my Master's intention."

The Doge replied, declaring the satisfaction of the Republic, praising Wotton, "who for the space of six years has filled this office, and has left nothing to be desired on any point, so much so that we cannot but feel sorrow at his departure; but as this is his Majesty's wish and convenience, besides that the Ambassador may be employed in some important post, worthy of his merits, loving him, as we do, we must be satisfied with that which may prove agreeable to him. And we are sure that on whatever mission his Majesty may employ his Lordship, he will amply respond to all that can be expected of a worthy servant of such a Sovereign. In this loss we are consoled by the appointment of your Lordship, whose qualities have been so often explained to us by Sir Henry Wotton, have been written by his Majesty, and have reached us from other quarters. We welcome you on your own account and as the Envoy of a King so friendly to our Republic. We are deeply gratified by what both your Lordships have explained as to the perfect good-will of his Majesty towards our Republic; we shall preserve it as a jewel of great price. The Republic originally had friendly relations with his Majesty's predecessors and also with Scotland, and it was a pleasure to renew these with his Majesty. Our satisfaction is all the greater in that his Majesty being at a good age and in sound health we may promise ourselves a long enjoyment of the fruits of this good friendship; moreover he is happy in his offspring, and particularly in his Highness the eldest Prince, who truly in the gifts of his outward form appears a very Angel. To our great satisfaction we saw his portrait which, as Sir Henry Wotton knows, was shown us by that English gentleman; we are told that the gifts of his mind are in nowise inferior; he is therefore sure to imitate to the full the striking qualities of his father, and we may hope that the good understanding will be continued in him. We return thanks for the information that his Majesty is pleased with our Ambassador Correr; we are also pleased that our officers have treated you as was fitting, though we regret that at the beginning of your duties you should have been subject to an inconvenient delay, but you will excuse us on the ground of our ordinary usage, which requires such diligence especially in a matter of such moment as health. And now, your Lordship will always be welcome every time you have occasion to seek us on business or otherwise; and you, Sir Henry Wotton, should you have to leave without seeing us again, about which we do not know, a good journey to you and be

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assured that, as we love you and greatly esteem you and are completely content with you, we shall always be glad to hear of your prosperity and that you have those favours and honours which your most admirable qualities deserve. We shall instruct our Ambassador to thank his Majesty for his amiable disposition and to assure him of the full satisfaction which your prudence, dexterity and noble qualities have given us; and we will send our autograph letters. Your Lordship will kindly convey to the King the sure testimony of our continued respect."

Wotton returned thanks for this public testimony that his Serenity had been content with his services. He promises, both at home and wherever else he may be, to remain a humble and devoted servant of the Republic, and to count it a great glory to be known as such.

The Doge repeated the assurance that the Government and the whole City were thoroughly satisfied with the Ambassador, for he had always borne himself in so honourable a fashion as to leave neither the Doge nor any one else aught to desire. "You and your whole household have acted with the greatest circumspection. It is much to your praise and a matter of no small wonder that although there was in your house another religion, yet both you and all your suite have acted so prudently and circumspectly that not a breath of scandal has touched you." (*Havendo et lei et cadauno della sua casa proceduto con ogni più prudente termine; et è cosa di sua grande lode et di non poca meraviglia che, tutto che nella sua casa fusse la diversità della Religione, et ella et ogn' uno della sua casa ha proceduto con così prudente et aveduto termine che non si è ricevuto pur minimo scandalo.*)

The Ambassador said he was too highly honoured and could never show his gratitude except by acknowledging everywhere his obligations. "And as your Serenity has touched on the point of religion I must not omit to say that I know that his Majesty's name has been roughly handled by disaffected persons, and his loyalty called in question over this point of diversity of religion; they endeavour to make out that another object than his straightforward and sincere affection led him to keep an Ambassador at your Serenity's Court. This is the drawback which great Kings and Princes suffer, that everyone, as the spirit moves him, bites and tears them. But these persons are unaware that the King is of profound judgement and knows how to distinguish between the Government of a State and religion; accordingly I take this occasion to declare and protest in public and to this large audience that my Master's intent is to preserve always a good, close, perfect and indissoluble friendship with this Serene Republic as with a great Sovereign and State, nor do he nor his Ministers intend to meddle with religious affairs; knowing that all Sovereigns are sensitive on the question of frontiers and so much the more must they be in matters of religion. This I affirm and therefore I have taken care that in my house they should live within bounds and avoid offence. (*Et questo è il contrario che hanno li Rè et li Principi grandi, che ogn' uno secondo li suoi affetti ardisce di morderli et lacerarli; ma non sano questi tali che sua Maestà è prudentissima et sa far distintione da governo di Stato a cose di Religione; et per ciò con questa occasione*

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mi dechiaro et protesto qui in publico et dove è così grande audienza che la intentione del mio Rè è di conservar sempre stretta, buona, perfetta et indissolubile amicitia con questa serenissina Republica come Principe grande et di Stato, et nel resto non intende ne lei ne li suoi Ministri di mischiarsi in cose di Religione; sapendo che sicome tutti li Prinicipi sono grandemente gelosi et mettono ogni spirito nel conservatione de confini, tanto più devono esser studiosi nelle cose di Religione; et così affermo et perciò ho procurato in casa mia che si vivi con li debiti terinini et senza dar occasione di mala sodisfazione.) After various other compliments, each Ambassador made a nephew, which each had with him, kiss his Serenity's hand, and then took their leave and departed.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 7. Minutes of the Senate, Mar. Venetian Archives.

130. As we ought to bestow upon the person of Sir Henry Wotton, Ambassador of his Majesty the King of England, the same marks of honour as it is customary to bestow on other Ambassadors:—

Motion made that a thousand crowns of public money be spent on a golden chain to be presented to him in the public name, and that two hundred crowns be given to his Secretary.

Ayes 147.
Noes 5.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 7. Collegio, Secreta. Ceremoniali. Venetian Archives.

131. Arrival in Venice of CARLETON, Ambassador in ordinary of England in place of WOTTON, his predecessor.

Sir Dudley Carleton, Ambassador in ordinary to the King of England in place of Ambassador Wotton, having arrived in Venice sought leave to come to the Cabinet. Accordingly both betook themselves to San Spirito and a goodly company of Senators went to receive them and to accompany them to their lodgings first and next day to the Cabinet. As they entered all rose to their feet, as is usual in the case of Ambassadors of great Sovereigns. They explained their mission in abundant and affectionate phrases. After they had taken leave and departed, the new Ambassador was presented with refreshments to the value of fifty ducats in two relays and the old Ambassador with a gold chain worth a thousand ducats, and his Secretary with two hundred crowns.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

132. MARC' ANTONIO CORRER, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Court is in some anxiety about the negotiations in Germany for the union of Saxony to the "possessioners" in the Duchy of Cleves. Although many of the protestant party think it neither just nor honourable that the Duke should be made a sharer in the fruit of so much trouble and toil endured by others, still the desire to see that province quiet—towards which this step is considered to be the sole

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means—prevails over all other considerations. The German Princes are not in a state to sustain a war owing to their lack of money. The progress of the Poles in Russia is also causing anxiety, nor do they cease to note the movement of arms in the Duchy of Milan. As to this, however, they wait to see what will happen on the arrival of the Constable of Castile who, it is generally thought, and as Lord Salisbury told me, is coming with an olive branch in his mouth. But the success of the Poles is very displeasing to the King, to the Council, to the Dutch, and to all Protestants; and it is held by some that when the affairs of Germany are settled, something must be done to help the King of Sweden. Lately news has come to hand that the King of Sweden has cruelly ordered about three hundred of his troops—French and English, among them many persons of birth—to be cut to pieces for fear of mutiny. This is considered by all as a barbarous act, and has raised against him such hatred that he would find it difficult to levy other troops here for his service. The King has shown great resentment, and has uttered words of profound feeling. All the same, neither this displeasure nor his natural dislike for the King of Sweden would be enough to prevent his Majesty from supporting Swedish interests, which he thinks identical with his own and those of Denmark, his brother-in-law.

The departure of Le Sieur from the Imperial Court is expected daily, and the delay is thought very strange. Trade is not suspended, however, and some ships have recently sailed for Hamburg; nay, English merchants have made large profits out of this difficulty, for all the cloth in those parts has gone up to a very high figure in expectation that trade would be interrupted for some time to come (*anzi, da tal alteratione questi mercanti hanno sentito profitto molto grande, perchè tutte le pannine che si trovano in quelle parti furono vendute a prezzi altissimi per dubbio che per qualche tempo restasse interotto il negotio*).

One of the requests preferred by the Danish Envoy lately was that the English should give up Hamburg and touch at Crempe (*Crinipe*) instead, which is in Danish territory; but the English merchants did not approve, as that port is not so handy for the distribution of goods.

The King will soon be back at Theobalds and perhaps in London for his business with Parliament, which gives him great trouble. Every day new difficulties arise, and the more his Majesty desires a decision about his wants, in order to dissolve Parliament, the further they are away from a conclusion, as the members refuse to vote more money and the King to abandon such excellent prerogatives until he has provided thoroughly for himself and satisfied all his Ministers. His Majesty lately took to sending his demands in writing; he then adjourned Parliament for fifteen days, on the plea that members should have time for mature consideration, but, perhaps, really with a wish to further his aims by means of pressure and also to deprive them of the opportunity to discuss freely in his absence. (*Prese sua Maestà expediente questi giorni passati di mandarli in scrittura le sue instanze, poi ha voluto che quel convento vacchi per quindeci giorni sotto pretesto, che ogn' uno possi haverri sopra matura consideratione ma forse per poter*

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aiutar il suo desiderio con il mezzo di qualche ufficio, et per levargli l'occasione di parlar più liberamente che sua Maestà non vorrebbe mentre si ritrova lontana.)

The Speaker* has been named Chancellor to the Prince of Wales, a post of the highest importance, as it is the true door to the Chancellorship of England. The appointment has roused general suspicion that it has been made with the sole object of winning him over to support the King; and already they have noted certain of his acts which are highly suspect.

The crew of the "Red Camel," which laded in Zante and went ashore on this coast, have all arrived safe on the other side. It does not appear that they were subjects of your Serenity, but there were on board her seventy-two barrels and nine sacks of currants belonging to Georgio Balsamo of Zante and a few others belonging to another merchant, whose specification has not yet reached Amsterdam and about which I can get no more information, as the ships books remained in the ship and the master who has come here has no recollection of the subject. He brings with him from Holland the papers relating to the cargo for the purpose of recovering the goods, and I will, in the interests of your Serenity's subjects, lend him all aid. The Lord Treasurer and the Grand Chamberlain, the day before yesterday, came to visit me in your Serenity's Embassy. They were accompanied by Lord Walden,† son of the one, and General Cecil, nephew of the other, and a following of carriages and gentlemen. They returned thanks for the honours and welcome which your Serenity was pleased to bestow on their sons. As this was noted by the whole City it will not only increase the repute of this house but will add to the benevolence of the English nation. Greetings for Christmas.

London, 9th December, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec. 10. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

133. Addition to the Instructions given to Zuan Giacomo Zane, appointed Governor General in Crete.

You are to take steps to prevent any of our subjects from giving any kind of assistance to pirates and from dealing with them in any way.

Ayes 120.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 29.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

134. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador makes much ado to restore the Pretender Bogdan to his throne. He keeps him in his house. By representations and by money he won over the Lieutenant Grand Vizir

* Sir Edward Phelips.
† Theophilus son of Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk.

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to present a memorial to the Sultan; it was sent in, but came out again without effect. His Majesty remarked that this was not the time to raise such a question.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 11th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 12. Senato Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

135. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

After making an inventory and searching that ship of Captain Ward, which was found on the shoals off Clarentza and towed into this port, it was judged of small value both because it was small and because it had been dismantled, was without a sail and in very bad condition. In order to encourage these inhabitants to prompt obedience to every command I, with the assent of my Council, have assigned the ship to Zorzi Balsamo, who was commissioned to search her and bring her over, on condition that he brings in one hundred ship loads of stone for the strengthening of the Mole.

Zante, 12th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 13. Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

136. Marc' Antonio Padavin, Venetian Secretary in Germany, to the Doge and Senate.

The meeting of the members of the Saxon house was to begin yesterday in Dresden. The Duke is all the more hopeful of a good issue for his affairs in that the Prince of Anhault does not report from England all that was hoped for from the King in favour of the Princes of the Union. They say his Majesty is not averse from the idea that his brother-in-law (Saxony) should be conjoined in the succession to Cleves.

At the English Court the King of Denmark made strong representations in this sense. It is not beyond belief that at Cologne they may re-open negotiations, especially when the United Princes see that they cannot get English help.

Prague, 13th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

137. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

News that Spain has ordered the disbanding of arms in the Milanese. The German troops are to cross the Alps; their object is to support the Catholic party in Germany, and to suppress the Confederates of Hall, and for this purpose they have appropriated money in some quantity. It would seem that under all this there are subtle and far-reaching designs, to unite the House of Austria, secure the election of the King of the Romans, to make a religious war which would have aims outside Germany, for in France there are Huguenots, in England Catholics, and even in the Low Countries there is diversity of creed. The Diet of Hall on the other hand has determined to invite the King of Denmark to declare himself head of

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the Union. These negotations have been going on for long, and the King of Denmark has consulted his brother-in-law, the King of England on the subject. There can be no doubt but that he will accept the proposal, for it will bring him honour and profit on all sides; for some years he has been accumulating money and increasing his arsenal and military stores.

Paris, 14th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

138. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The suspension of the decree of Parliament condemning Bellarmin's book was given by the Queen's Privy Council, and applied to the publication of the decree, not to its execution; although the Chancellor, to please the Nuncio and to remove grounds of complaint, permitted them to write to the Pope that they had obtained absolute suspension. But the Nuncio, not content with this, caused the suspension to be printed, and hence arose loud protestations. This day week Parliament met and named five Presidents to maintain its rights and to make serious complaint to her Majesty and Council.

Father Cotton, the Jesuit, has preached two or three days in the Louvre on the subject of equivocation; showing how one can swear falsely without sinning by making a mental reservation. The book is, in reality, prohibited; and three days ago while I was with the King's Advocate, the Advocate of Lyons called to ask what was to be done with the book if it reached that City. He was told to seize the book, imprison the importers and bring them to trial; he was, however, told to go and speak to the Chancellor, Villeroy, and the first President, to receive confirmation of these orders. I learned afterwards that the Chancellor and Villeroy agreed, and so did the first President, in even stronger terms.

Last week, at the instance of the English Ambassador, one who was charged with the design of passing over to England to kill the King was arrested. They say he is convicted of having declared it to be a great merit to slay a Huguenot, and much more a King of Huguenots; that if one were arrested and executed before he could carry out his design he deserved, all the same, to be counted a martyr. He is a Roman by birth, badly clothed, speaks Latin very well. He expressed exalted ideas, and many believe that he has been chosen and brought up in such opinions on purpose for such a deed.

Paris, 15th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 16. Minutes of the Senate. Mar. Venetian Archives.

139. To the Ambassador in England.

Sir Dudley Carleton, elected as successor to Sir Henry Wotton, has recently arrived in this city. Both of them made the representations here enclosed. We received them with the affection we are wont to show to all that Sovereign's representatives. As far as we could discover at the first audience the ambassador appears to be endowed with all those qualities which, you tell us, led to his election, and for this you will thank the King.

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Of Wotton you will speak in the terms of our letters to the King and the Prince of Wales, of which we enclose a copy. Wotton holds the originals at his own request. You will assure his Majesty of our satisfaction with him.

Ayes 120.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 16. Minutes of the Senate, Mar. Venetian Archives.

140. To the King of Great Britain.

Your Majesty's letters, conveyed to us by Sir Dudley Carleton, Sir Henry Wotton's successor, have brought us the greatest satisfaction, full as they are of affection and benevolence, promising a continuance of the love you bear us. We assure you that we shall always reciprocate it; and Sir Henry Wotton, on his return, will testify to this. His ability and prudence displayed in his transactions move us to desire for him from your Majesty every good, and we believe that your Majesty will be ever more and more satisfied. We are pleased to find that our judgement agrees with that which we gather that your Majesty holds.

Ayes 120.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 16. Minutes of the Senate, Mar. Venetian Archives.

141. To the Prince of England.

In praise of Wotton. We have begged him to represent to you our singular affection and friendly offers and to say that nothing would give us greater satisfaction than to hear of your successes and to see you following the paternal glory.

Ayes 120.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 17. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

142. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

M. Servin (Cervino), the advocate of the King, took to the Queen several chapters of Bellarmin's book, about which the Cardinal de Joyeuse and other friends of the Nuncio had raised doubts; the substance is that the Pope has the power to depose Kings and deprive them of their kingdoms, give them over to sack, and free subjects from their oath.

The book has been found in manuscript translated into French; it was sequestrated at once. It is supposed that the end will be that the Nuncio will keep the suspension but that the book will, in fact, be prohibited.

The examination of the prisoner arrested at the request of the English Ambassador is going on. He confesses that he spoke in general terms but denies that he ever specified the King of England;

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of this, however, he is convicted by four witnesses. He does not conceal that he meant to cross over to England. Some writing has been found on him, but there is no certainty that he meant to go to kill the king, though there are not wanting strong suspicions.

Paris, 17th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

143. Giovanni Mocenigo, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

The Pope said "On the death of the King of France, Father Cotton, who was so dear to his Majesty, wrote a letter to the Queen in which he exhorted her to—I do not remember what—enough, the letter was full of piety and religion. Now, in answer to this letter, there has appeared a book called 'Anti-Cotton;' it runs to about eighty pages and, with heretical licence, it speaks ill of the Catholic religion and of the Apostolic Chair. This book has been printed by Mejetti, in Venice, in Italian; in many copies there is the imprint of Lyons, but in fact it was printed in Venice, for both type and paper are recognized." The Pope protested against this. The Ambassador replied suggesting that the Pope might have been misinformed by evil-disposed persons.

Rome, 18th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 20. Senata Secreta, Capitano della Guardia di Candia, Venetian Archives.

144. Antonio Civran, Captain of the Guard in Crete, to the Doge and Senate.

Sends home a report on certain Barbary pirates brought to him by a ship of Patmos.

From my Galley in the port of Fraschia, 20th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

145. Antonio da Sifanto, master of a ship just come into this port, examined by order of Antonio Civran, Captain of the Guard, deposed that he sailed from Patmos seven days ago; on his fifth day out he touched at Santorin; he left Santorin yesterday morning. At Patmos there was recently a *berton* called the *Golden Lion*, fitted out in Tunis; the crew consisted of two hundred and fifty men of various nationalities, but mostly Turks, although there were a good many English and French. She was in company with four other armed *bertons* and a *tartana*, but in a storm off Cerigo they parted company. From a Turk who came on board his ship and wishes to become a Christian, he learned that in case of storm the *bertons* had given a *rendezvous* at Cape Salamon. The *berton* is no longer at Patmos, she had left a few days before, but her destination is unknown. Off Cerigo she had captured one of three vessels bound from Crete with a cargo of wine and cheeses; the other two had escaped. The vessel that was captured is said to be a French *saetta* bound from Candia for Venice. She was at once sent into Tunis. He had fallen in with no other ships, but he had heard that in the port of Morgo was another pirate *berton*, careened for repairs. Knows nothing about the Turkish Armada.

[*Italian.*]

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1610.
Enclosed in preceding despatch.

146. The Turk on board the vessel from Patmos examined by order of Antonio Civran. Short of stature, chestnut-coloured beard, great moustaches, seems to be about thirty-five. Speaking in a mixture of Turkish and French he said his name was Ali from Babylon. Had been a slave in Hungary, whence he was taken to Spain. By the help of God he escaped from slavery and went to Tunis three years ago. This year fifteen *bertons* went out; one was three hundred tons burden and the others small vessels; they were fitted out by Osman Missi, one of the leading men of Tunis. Six of these were dispatched to Candia and nine to the Straits of Gibraltar. He was advised to sail on board one of the six. It is forty-five days since he left Tunis. They touched at no port. Near Maino they had news that the great galleys were at hand; the news was given them by the crew of a French *saetta* with a cargo of wines and cheeses that they had captured. The crew of the *saetta* was retained and the ship herself sent to Tunis; the crew consisted of thirteen persons and two women. They put to sea and all got separated in a storm at night, nor did they see their consorts again. Their *rendezvous* was Cape Salamon. The crew of the *berton* numbered two hundred and twenty Turks, French and English; Ward's ship had one hundred and thirty; Usta Marati's one hundred and eighty; there were forty on board a small *butachio* and on board the others about one hundred each. The Turk served as soldier on board. The reason why he left the *berton* was that a woman with a child in her arms appeared to him in his sleep and warned him not to stay in that ship or else he would lose his life. The child, who was sucking the breast, left off and said "Come with me and thou shalt be my brother." He woke from his dream and recounted it to his companions. Then he fell asleep again and the Igummo of the town appeared to him and said "What doest thou in this ship, come out of it." In the morning he left the ship and on the road he met the Christian who is now here, who asked if he would go to Crete and become a Christian. He accepted. Before sailing from Tunis the pirates had agreed that they were to wait twenty-seven days between Cerigo and Cape Spada.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 22.
Consiglio de' Dieci. Parti Communi. Venetian Archives.

147. Permission to Count Benedetto Lombardo to delay two months before going into his relegation at Palma.

Ayes	6.	Second vote	Ayes	5.
Noes	5.		Noes	6.
Neutrals	4.		Neutrals	4.

As the vote required a ⅔ majority the motion was suspended.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 23.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

148. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have paid to the Post Master in Antwerp one hundred pounds of that money on account of postage for this year from Venice to Germany and Antwerp and from London to Venice. I have also paid the Post Master here for postage to London from Antwerp,

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France and Spain, from 14th July, twenty-three pounds, six shillings, one penny; total, 349 ducats 12 grossi. Accounts and vouchers enclosed. Will your Serenity cause this sum to be paid to Marco Cesareo on my letters which he holds?

London, 23rd December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

149. Receipt from ANTOINE DE TASSIS for 100 pounds.

Antwerp, 7th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

150. Note of payments.

To ANTONIE DE TASSIS.

	£	s.	d.
100 lire de grossi of that money that is lire sterline - - - -	59	14	0
To Felippo Burlamachi in Paris - -	3	9	0
To the Post Master in England - -	14	13	3
For extras - - - - -	5	3	10
	£83	0	1

In all £83 0*s.* 1*d.* reduced to Venetian Ducats at the rate of 57 pence for the ducat, equals Ducats 349, sold. 12.

Dec. 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

151. MARC' ANTONIO CORRER, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The news which has come from France that it is certain that the troops will be withdrawn from the Milanese has been well received here, except that the regiment of Madrucci is to be kept on foot and sent to Germany. *This rouses some suspicion though thought to be merely one of the usual Spanish artifices, as, if they really meant to send these troops they would not so readily publish their plans. All the same I have discovered a genuine doubt lest this report should hearten the enemies of Saxony and Neuburg to stand by their claims. Everyone is convinced that the policy of the Spanish is to separate the Lutherans from the Calvinists and to ruin both, or at least to weaken them. The difficulty about Neuburg and the administration of the Palatinate is felt by the Protestants to be more urgent than the claims of Saxony to the Duchy of Cleves; for they think they could always remove any pretext for arms by placing the Duke in that Duchy. Indeed they are discussing a joint embassy to the Duke to settle some plan. From Flanders we hear that the Duke has applied to the Archdukes for their support in placing him in one or two little places in the Duchy of Cleves which as yet have remained neutral; but the answer was not to his satisfaction, for the Archdukes, who are not inclined for war, excused themselves and referred the matter to his Catholic Majesty.*

A French ship has been driven into port by stress of weather; she had on board the plunder from a Spanish carvel laden with sugar, hides and other merchandize, which she had captured off

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Brazil. The ship has been arrested on the demand of the Spanish Ambassador, who claims her as belonging to subjects of his Master. The French on the other hand affirm that it is lawful prize in virtue of the liberty they enjoy under the treaty of peace to sail the main seas at their own risk. It is thought that a compromise will be reached. There is confirmation of the news that the pirate Ward and Sir Francis Verney, also an Englishman of the noblest blood, have become Turks, to the great indignation of the whole nation. At present they are near the straits, where they have captured two vessels which sailed from Lisbon for Italy. Your Serenity may have had this news earlier.

Last week there died at Greenwich a young lady of the Lady Drummond, who is in the highest favour and alone has free access to the Queen. There was a great suspicion that the cause was the plague. Five days later one of her companions also died. On this account the Queen was much troubled, and as soon as the danger was manifest she left Greenwich for London. The King received the news at Royston from one who had been sent for other reasons and was not well informed, and for some hours he was in deep grief, which he bore very ill until letters arrived from Lord Salisbury, who had to delay their despatch for a while, as he had set out to meet the Queen. Mercifully the rest of the Court is well, and the plague has so decreased that it no longer gives cause for anxiety. The list of deaths this week does not exceed twelve in one hundred and twenty-one parishes.

The business in Parliament has gone from bad to worse, so that the King has had to adjourn it again for two months. *Meantime they will try to win over some of those who have shown most opposition, and if they do not succeed Parliament will be dissolved altogether, so that the constituencies shall elect new members. There are those who say that the King will never summon Parliament again, but his need of money is against that, and maybe this rumour is put about to frighten many of them. So far the members show little inclination to vote his Majesty any subsidy beyond what has already been voted last summer, for they despair of abolishing Wardship as the whole Kingdom earnestly desires; and the ill will which is swelling up on all sides is very serious. I hear that the Catholics have taken this opportunity to offer the King two hundred and fifty thousand ducats to remain unmolested, and they use his indignation against Parliament, to which they attribute their persecution, to assist their aim. The proposal has not been approved nor taken into consideration. The rigour in matters of religion continues, and the prisons are full of Catholics and priests. On Monday a Benedictine Friar and a secular priest were put to death; the first because he had been five times banished and last year was one of those who were handed over to the French Ambassador and by him taken out of the Kingdom; the other because on interrogation by the Bishop of London he began to press him with close arguments and vigorous demonstrations that principles adopted by him against his judgement were of no value and unworthy of such a man as he.* They might have saved themselves by taking the oath, but both persistently refused. After receiving numerous visits in prison when the sentence had been passed, they were accompanied to the place of execution two miles out of the city by a crowd of about three thousand

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persons, among whom were many of the leading ladies and gentlemen. Many of the mob insisted on drawing the little cart in which the prisoners were; many fell on their knees to receive their benediction, and kissed their feet; nor was anyone hindered in such demonstrations, except that after the execution those who wished to gather their blood were driven back. The friar spoke at length *warning the people and declaring that whoso finds himself not in the Catholic faith at the time of his death cannot reach the peace of salvation.* He prayed and urged them to pray for the King and his Council, laying the blame of their innocent death on the heresy of the Kingdom; nor did he lack hearty applause from the very Protestants. Diligence that the corpses should not be dishonoured nor carried off availed nought, even though they were on purpose placed under sixteen thieves, who were put to death that same day; and on that there will be an enquiry.

London, 23rd December, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec. 25. Senato Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

152. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

At Leghorn the Earl of Warwick is building that vessel of his, but he goes very slowly, as he has not hands enough. He has lately dismissed forty head men. I am told they are very slow in spending money on such objects, as they bring no profit, and it is many days since they fitted out a privateer, nor have they granted the flag to anyone. They are, even, recalling those that have been issued. Not even Jacques Pierre,* who is in such high favour with Madama, has been able to obtain the use of the flag, and he is now fitting out a ship at Naples. But one cannot count on anything for certain, so frequent are the changes.

Florence, 25th December, 1610.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 31. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

153. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Their Majesties are awaiting the Marshal de Laverdin, who is coming for the swearing of the treaty with France. He cannot be far away from the sea. He will be nobly entertained, and they are preparing for his use a very beautiful palace† which belonged to the Archbishop of Canterbury lately deceased. It does not quite satisfy the French, being outside the City and on the opposite side of the river. The Masques which the Queen and Prince are preparing are particularly directed to honour this mission, which has been sent on purpose at this Christmastide so as to admit of still greater favour being shown to the Marshal. Everything will be done to please him, partly in return for the favours shown to Lord Wotton in France, partly because it seems that there is at present a tendency

* One of the chief conspirators in the Spanish Plot of 1618.

† Lambeth. Sir Thomas Thynne's house, for which a rent of £100 was paid, was hired for the Ambassador's use. *See.* Cal. S.P. Dom. 26th Nov. 1610.

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to cultivate the friendship of France with greater diligence than heretofore. No news from Germany this week. The attention of the King and Council particularly directed there; they watch whether the Spanish are going to send troops there now that their soldiery is disbanded in the Milanese.

The King of Spain has written a long letter on this subject, to his Ambassador here; in it he speaks very bitterly against the Duke of Savoy. I have had means to secure a copy, which I send. With the adjournment of Parliament many have gone to their country houses, to pass Christmas with that splendour which is the ordinary usage of this country* (*per passare le feste del santissimo Natale con quel splendore ch'è ordinario costume del Regno*). The King came back to London yesterday; he is quite free from the worry which usually disturbs him excessively; for his Majesty is wont to say that while Parliament is sitting it is interregnum for him (*resta del tutto solevato da questa molestia di animo che lo suole perturbar in estremo, dicendo la Maestà sua che mentre senta il Parlamento è per lei tempo di interegno*). Certain persons have been approached with a view to inducing them to bow to his Majesty's wishes and desires (I have information on this point from a good quarter, but it would only weary your Serenity); this vile system is being continued, but as yet with small results. About the Prince's demand to be freed from his minority as regards the exercise of his prerogatives, nothing more has been said owing to the want of time, as is stated, but perhaps because, in the present disagreements, they are doubtful of the issue.

Occasion has also been given for great *murmuring by the protection which, on the King's orders, the Judges have extended to a Scottish Knight and his two servants who, at his bidding, had slain an officer of justice when arresting the Scot for debt. The City desired to see exemplary justice meted out because of the nature of the case, which is very unusual here, and because of the universal hatred of that race. The judges by most open favouritism succeeded in moderating the rigour of the law. The case was sent to the King's Bench; and what mostly annoys the English is the pomp and sumptuousness of the accused.*†

Casaubon, who had always shown a resolve to return to France, has at last accepted the one thousand six hundred ducats a year offered him; but his hopes aim much higher, for this rare and accomplished person is to serve a right liberal monarch in matters of study, to which his Majesty is greatly inclined, especially at this time when so many books and writings are in circulation. (*Il Casabona, che ha sempre mostrata risolutione di ritornar in Francia, ha finalmente accettato gl'assignamenti fattigli per* 1,600 *ducati d'entrata; ma molte maggiori sono le sue speranze, dovendo questo raro et versato soggetto servire un Rè liberalissimo in cosa di studio al quale piega grandemente il genio della Maestà sua, spetialmente nelle occasioni di tanti libri et scritture che al presente vanno intorno.*)

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* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. Nov. 27. Royston. Lake to Salisbury. "The Parliament to be prorogued on pretence that the gentlemen of the better sort should be in their country residences about Christmas in order to relieve the people with hospitality."

† Decipher reads "preguiditii," but cipher reads b^{18} m^{63} b^{38} = "pregione."

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1610.

The representations which his Majesty made to the Earl of Arundel in favour of the merchants of Zante interested in the cargo of the ship the "Red Camel," which was cast away on the coast, have produced no effect. For while the Earl shows himself willing on the one hand, on the other he says that in order not to prejudice his rights he must have in writing a renouncement of all claims and a reference to himself. I have not thought it advisable to assent to this, for to the great damage of this market, one would lose all hope of recovering anything of moment. The Ambassador of the United Provinces shares this view. However, after many attempts to recover the cargo as a courtesy from the Earl and offering to make him a handsome recognition, I intend to apply again to the King and if need be to take the votes of the Judges, so I am advised to act by Counsel. Meantime the Earl of Arundel has concerted measures with the Lord High Admiral to render their position stronger. Together they have had an estimate made of the ship and her cargo, which they put at four thousand ducats. This will give, perhaps, to our side an opportunity to make some offer which will help the case.

London, 31st December, 1610.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

154. Copy of a letter written by his Catholic Majesty to his Ambassador in England.

The King,

Don Alonso di Velasco, member of my Council and my Ambassador in England. The transactions between King Henry IV. of France, deceased, and the Duke of Savoy are notorious. The Duke forgot the great benefits his House had received from this Crown, which at great cost restored to him his territories taken from him by the French, forgot, too, the favours and gratifications which the Lord, my Father, may he be in heaven, bestowed on his sons, and those also which I was in the course of bestowing; and so to punish so notable an injury I ordered the Count of Fuentes, my Governor and Captain General in the State of Milan, to arm, and he began to do so. But his illness and death delayed the execution of my resolve. Although the Pontiff was fully aware of the justice of my cause, nevertheless in his holy zeal and in his capacity as Universal Father, and hoping to avoid the damage which war in Italy would cause and endeavouring to preserve the peace which for so long a period and with so much ability my predecessor and I have preserved, his Holiness approached me through the Archbishop of Damascus, his Nuncio at my Court, and the Archbishop of Chieti, his Nuncio extraordinary; and by letters written with his own holy hand, renewing their representations, he besought me, with paternal love and extraordinary affection, that for the service of God and of all Christendom, I should avoid the cause of rupture and of all those ills which would be the inevitable consequence, by pardoning the Duke; his Holiness showed how much this would please him. I replied through the Nuncios that I was very willing to gratify him, but the Duke of Savoy must acknowledge his error. When the Duke understood this he sent

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his son Prince Filiberto, prior of Castile and Leon; and before him the Bishops of S. Jean Morienne and after him the Count de la Motte with letters of credence for the Prince, who is making use of them. He assured me that his father sent him to my feet as neither his own years nor his labours would allow him to come in person, to beg me to be pleased to accept that submission which it might please me to impose, for the Duke was in the direst distress at finding himself out of my favour, that he cast himself at my feet, nor would he rise until death overtook him or he received from me the favour of being admitted again, himself and his family, to my good graces and to my protection. Although many reasons concur to make me justly angry with the Duke and to seek satisfaction for his misdeeds, still I, considering the public weal before my own and wishing to prove to our most holy Father the love I bear him and to my nephew—and I must add that the Queen of France has written to me very warmly by her own hand, and the King by his ambassador here resident, begging me to receive the Duke of Savoy into my good graces—I resolved to stay my hand from my resolve and ordered the suspension of arms and promised to take the Duke into my favour, which will keep pace with his merits.

I, the King.

Pardo, 20th November, 1610. 1611.

1611.

1611. Jan. 3. Collegio, Secreta, Esposizioni. Principi, Venetian Archives.

155. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:

Although he had no business, either public or personal, he would not omit an universal custom, that was to wish a happy New Year to the Serene Republic; he protests his devotion and readiness to serve; the policy of a Minister should be the same as the policy of his Master; the King of England desires peace, public quiet, the tranquillity of Italy, happiness and prosperity to the Republic; to these aims the Ambassador will devote himself.

The Doge returned the compliment, and said that history recorded the notable favours bestowed on this State by that Crown.

The Ambassador said he hoped to trouble his Serenity as little as possible. He would sometimes send his secretary, Gregorio (Monti), secretary to the late Ambassador, a Venetian, and therefore all the more willingly received. The Ambassador begged the Doge to lend Gregorio perfect credence. The Doge said he knew and appreciated the Secretary, and would always receive and listen to him as the Ambassador requested.

[*Italian.*]

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1611.
Jan. 6.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

156. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

I have letters from Marseilles announcing that Dauncer (Danzer) sailed with the ships appointed for the punishment of the Barbary pirates. He was to cruise off Algiers and prevent the pirates putting out. Besides some small ships he captured a great galleon, and there were hopes of still greater successes had he known how to conduct matters. But he put in towards the fort with a flag of parley (*bandiera di riscato*) flying and sent his lieutenant on shore to treat. The lieutenant brought back hopes of putting an end to the injuries inflicted on the Marseilles shipping, and Dauncer was induced to land in person, but he was deceived by the Bey of the pirates, made prisoner and has paid by his death for his excessive credulity and the thousands of murders he committed in former times. This news, although not absolutely confirmed, still seeing that it is so full of details and is reported by one who says he was an eye witness, is thought to be true and will seriously affect the trade of Marseilles.

Paris, 6th January, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 8.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

157. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

Osman Day (?) (*Dai*), a famous English pirate who had become a Turk, has sent word from Barbary to the Porte that he has armed six *bertons* with one hundred and fifty blackamoor harquebusseers apiece, and forty pieces of artillery, and has already sent them towards the Gulf of Sethelia and to the waters of Cyprus to meet and fight the ships of the Grand Duke. The Capudan Pasha, on receiving the news, at once sent a note to the Sultan, who was much pleased at Osman's offer and sent him instantly a robe to Tunis and another with a letter to the Commander of the six *bertons*, to whom leave has been given to enter any port in the Sultan's dominions. I fear great mischief from them, for the sea instead of being protected will be more than ever plundered by them, especially as they are now under the protection of the Sultan.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 8th January, 1610 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 11.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

158. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Your Serenity will have heard ere this that the Turkish Fleet has returned to Constantinople after having engaged an English *berton*. Six hundred Turks went on board her, but they and the whole crew perished, as the English sank the ship.

An English ship put in here a few days ago. Its supercargo reports that on his departure from Naples there was a rumour that the Grand Signor had beheaded, in Tunis, Carosman, captain of the Janissaries and supporter of Ward, the pirate, who is at present out on a buccaneering expedition off Spain.

Zante, 11th January, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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1611.
Jan. 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

159. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Court has passed these days of Christmastide in festivity and rejoicing. The King wished the Marshal de Laverdin, Ambassador extraordinary of France, to arrive here at this juncture, and accordingly he caused the Marshal to postpone his departure some weeks ago; but now M. de Laverdin, either kept back by business or resolved not to go to dances, as he is still in mourning, did not reach Calais till Monday last and is kept there by the wind. The Master of the Ceremonies has been sent down to the shore to meet him, and forty other gentlemen who speak French are to meet him twenty miles out of London. He will be handsomely entertained and his business quickly despatched, as the King means to be off as soon as possible to finish this year's hunting season at Royston; and nothing but this reception would keep his Majesty in London after this week. On Tuesday the Prince gave his Masque, which was very beautiful throughout, very decorative, but most remarkable for the grace of the Prince's every movement.

The King was pleased that the Spanish Ambassador and I should be present. *The Ambassador of the United Provinces was also invited, but perhaps by agreement he feigned displeasure, as he is accustomed to find himself with the Ambassador of his Catholic Majesty, to whom it is unpleasant that by this title of Ambassador other Sovereigns should authenticate the independence of those states.* The Queen, next whom I sat, said that on Sunday next she intended to give her Masque, and she hoped the King would invite me to it. *She then said some words in English to the Earl of Salisbury, from which I gathered they are not pleased at M. de Laverdin's delay, which looked as though he had not understood the honour done him by the King and the Prince.*

His Highness, after naming the officers of his household and signing many excellent orders,* administered the oath to all, and has begun to govern his house apart from his father's. He is delighted to rule; and as he desires that the world should think him prudent and spirited he pays attention to the regulations of his house and is studying an order as to the cut and quality of the dresses of the gentlemen of his household—which runs here to an incredible excess; on the other hand he attends to the disposition of his houses, having already ordered many gardens and fountains and some new buildings. He is paying special attention to the adorning of a most beautiful gallery of very fine pictures ancient and modern, the larger part brought out of Venice. He is also collecting books for a library he has built. (*Havendo di già ordinati molti giardini nelle sue Case, fontane et qualche fabrica. Attende spetialmente ad ornare una bellissima galeria di bellissime pitture antiche et moderne la maggior parte cavate di Venetia; et fa raccolta de libri per una libraria fatta da nuovo.*)

Affairs of Germany are under negotiation and here they entertain good hopes of peace. The Duke of Saxony has at last obtained possession from the Archdukes of those small places belonging to

* *See* Birch. "Life of Henry, Prince of Wales, London, 1760, Ap. IX."

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1611.

Cleves, inside Brabant. This will not hinder the settlement; nay, it should make the other two "possessioners" more ready to admit the Duke to their company.

In Holland M. de Barneveldt (*Bernouel*) is on the point of death, to the great grief of all those provinces, who will lose a rare genius. He has suggested as his successor a person of weight and excused himself for excluding his own brother, whom he recognises as fit for many things but not for all business as the post requires. This has confirmed the idea of his great integrity and love for his country.

High winds all this week, which have caused much damage. The day before yesterday came news of the loss of two ships.

I have received your Serenity's despatch of the 16th of last month, with an account of Carleton's presentation and Wotton's leave-taking.

London, 14th January, 1611 (*sic*).

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Jan. 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

160. Giovanni Mocenigo, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

The Nuncio in Paris writes that he learns from letters written from England that there is greater rigour than ever against the Catholics of that kingdom, and that many priests have been put to death. His Holiness is much distressed and has consulted with one or two Cardinals as to the way in which this persecution might be killed or modified. He was told that no remedy could be of greater assistance to this object than to cease to annoy the King as he was annoyed in the past, and to abandon the policy followed by the Jesuits, which experience has shown to produce the worst results, contrary to all expectation.

Rome, 15th January, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 16. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

161. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

After Wotton's arrival the Duke has done all he could to flatter him and honour him during the few days of his stay here. He entertained him at his own charges; and on Sunday he invited Wotton to a little *fête* at which his Highness was present. He sent Wotton a masquerade costume, very magnificent, with a jewel in the cap of the value of one thousand crowns. The next day he invited Wotton to dine and at the close he gave several great toasts to the health of his Majesty. He then showed Wotton the gallery and library, and in the evening he took him to see the Princes jousting. On Wednesday the Ambassador being on the point of departure, with the carriages waiting, the Duke sent to detain him and that evening had a very long audience of over three hours. The Duke all along has shown impatience and desire for the Ambassador's arrival. As the Ambassador took a long time over the road after leaving Venice the Duke had all the more opportunity for displaying his anxiety by showing how much he desired his passage through

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this city. For many days now the Duke has been planning to send the Count of Ruffia as his Ambassador to England, and he is now all the more confirmed in this design. From the moment of his arrival the Ambassador was aware of an extraordinary desire on the part of the Duke to honour him, and from the Count of Ruffia, who was appointed to meet him and to wait on him, he learned about this Embassy to England. However, up to Tuesday, when Wotton came to visit me—as he had his suite with him there was little occasion for private talk—on my giving him the opportunity he took occasion to say that on his oath he had not as yet discovered any particular negotiations in the mind of his Highness but only a desire to establish good relations with his Majesty; and that it might be of service to your Serenity that the Duke should show such tendencies, for it would be a pledge of his goodwill towards the Republic, and a proof that he had made up his mind to stand with his Majesty, with the Republic and with the Crown of France. Wotton told me that he had taken occasion to bear witness to the great regard in which your Excellencies hold the Duke, and this he had done as in duty bound in the service of your Serenity and for the common good, which requires that the Duke should be heartened and confirmed in his present excellent attitude. He conjectured that when the Duke's Ambassador reached London he would take it as an open sign of understanding if the Garter were bestowed on the Duke as it has been on the King of France, and Wotton thought that his Majesty would be pleased to comply. Wotton did not show any signs of thinking that aught else was in his Highness' mind, nor did he expect a further audience. That audience took place under the special circumstances of a postponement of his departure and indicates some question of moment. While the Abbé Provana was Ambassador for the Duke to your Serenity, by means of Wotton some question of a marriage between the Prince of Savoy and the Princess of England was mooted, but the negotiations for a French match broke it off; *now if the Duke were to find opposition in France he might again turn his attention to this project, and this may be the reason for his sending an Embassy to England, and its departure will be hastened or retarded as occasion requires. Meantime the Duke thinks that such marks of regard towards Ministers of his Majesty are of great help to him both because a close connection with the Crown of England would be useful and because, should his hopes of the French match be deluded, he would in a way repair the damage to his reputation caused by the refusal of France if it were seen that he was in treaty with England. Although these ideas may be passing through his Highness' mind I think it difficult to believe that he would communicate them to the English Ambassador, for, as the King of England is still inclined to a French Princess for the Prince of Wales, if the Duke were to show that he thought his own marriage project doubtful the English would be incited to press on theirs. The Duke will, however, be governed by a care not to injure himself with France for a French alliance would suit his policy and guarantee his State better than an alliance with England; though he may have mooted the subject in case of the rupture of his French schemes, as this new negotiation might lead to a matrimonial contract between the Prince of Savoy and the Princess of England.*

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It has been observed, however, that the Duke made an opportunity for and even urged Wotton to visit the Princesses, and that while he was watching the Prince's jousting he was placed right opposite the Princesses, and on Sunday his Highness being in his sledge, masked, and, as is usual, having the eldest of the Princesses with him, when he came opposite the Ambassador's carriage he stopped the sledge to take of and re-adjust the Princess's mask, which was hurting her, and this gave the Ambassador an opportunity of seeing her in such a condition—warmed by the exercise and by the mask—as would render her more beautiful than she ordinarily appears.

Turin, 16th January, 1611.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Jan. 16. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

162. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador paid me a visit on Tuesday, and expressed his determination to serve your Serenity everywhere. On Wednesday I sent my secretary to pay my respects to him on the day of his departure. Wotton kept the secretary and said that he had omitted to say how deeply he felt the courtesy with which he had been treated the whole time of his stay in that city, and especially in the case of one last great favour that he had received. Still he could not help feeling a little hurt at the difference that had been made between himself and M. de Fresnes, though both were Envoys of equal Princes, nay if either should have the preference his Master deserved it for having openly declared himself for the Republic when others were either opposed or stood neutral.

My secretary replied that the favours shown to M. de Fresnes were private and peculiar to himself, as his son had offered to raise a regiment of French. Wotton said he had one with him who would have raised ten thousand English; and that he had only a a nephew and not a son with him was not a fair ground for drawing a distinction. He wished me to be informed of this in order that I might assure your Excellencies that here he laid down any burden of wrong under which he might have left Venice, retaining only the obligations under which he lay.

Turin, 16th January, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 18. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

163. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The Persian Ambassador* who came here a year ago with a proposal from the King of Persia to send all exports out of Persia to Lisbon if Spain would attack Turkey, has not had an answer. He has resolved to depart; he told me privately that he intended to go to England to offer them this advantage. Another Persian Ambassador is expected soon at Court.

Madrid, 18th January, 1610 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

* Sir Robert Sherley

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Jan. 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

164. MARC' ANTONIO CORRER, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Just when it was hoped that the Lady Arabella was about to enjoy the royal clemency, she, in spite of many arguments advanced in defence of her marriage and many humble excuses made to the King, was unanimously by the whole Council ordered to set out, within twenty days, for Durham, thirty miles from the Scottish border, where she was to live in the keeping of the Bishop. It is thought that the King will send her even further, and by putting her out of the kingdom he will secure himself against disaffection settling round her. Her husband is confined to the Tower for life and more closely guarded than heretofore; this has thrown him into extreme affliction; nor are there wanting those who bewail his unhappiness.

M. de Laverdin after waiting eleven days in Calais and putting to sea four times, crossed over yesterday, but with so much difficulty that one of his escort and part of her crew are held for lost. He had to land on the beach* and he has sent up for carriages and other necessaries. This delay will likely be the greatest expense of his Embassy, for here he will have all that he needs for himself and his suite, which is said to be very numerous. Two days ago the king went to Hampton Court to spend this time in sport; he will not fail to return to receive and dismiss the Marshal and will then proceed to Royston. While he was here the King paid personal attention to the more important business. He held a further confrontation of Father Baldwin the Jesuit with another Jesuit who is in the Tower; but I hear that nothing was extracted. All hopes of bringing parliament to a satisfactory decision failing, it has been dissolved outright. This step, which is unusual, as Parliament is usually prorogued, and the rumour that the King intends to issue privy seals for the amount of one million six hundred thousand crowns, give rise to some talk. *This loan once obtained his Majesty will summon a new Parliament; care being taken that those hostile to him shall not be re-elected. He will all the more readily obtain subsidies to pay back the loan, in that everyone will have an interest in voting it, and all the money will pass into the hands of the nobility. Some cry out that it is not well to exclude those who have forgotten their personal interests in the service of their country; others are unwilling that his Majesty should achieve by indirect ways what was refused him by Parliament. All the same, as these demands for a loan have been made before and as his Majesty completely repaid his debt, a thing Queen Elizabeth did not do, he will find a readiness in his subjects. If he gains the Parliamentary leaders he will secure a return of a majority of members that suit his taste.*

In Flanders some officers are raising troops for Germany. All the same, those who manage affairs here think that an accord will be reached. The Queen's Masque is put off to the Feast of the Purification; either because the stage machinery is not in order or because their Majesties thought it well to let the Marshal depart first. Letters from Italy received the day before yesterday; we learn

* He landed at Lewes.

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about the health of the Viscount Cranborne,* about which were spread unquieting rumours that kept the Court very anxious, and caused the Lord Treasurer, his father, to ask me for some information and to doubt that something was being held back. But his courage never deserted him a moment.

London, 21st January, 1611.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Jan. 22. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

165. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The English and their vessels are expected in Leghorn.

Florence, 22nd January, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 22. Minutes of the Senate. Constantinople. Venetian Archives.

166. To the *Bailo* in Constantinople.

Though convinced that the Governor of Zante will have informed you about the vessel belonging to the pirate Ward (*Vuart*) which went on shore on the shoals of Clarentza, and of the shelter given to the crew by the Bey of the Morea, still we send copies of his letters and charge you to make serious complaint against the Bey, who shelters pirates in spite of orders from the Porte.

Ayes 137.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

167. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

When the King of Denmark heard the proposal made in the name of the Diet at Hall, he declared that he would join the Union, but as to being head of it, for fear of offending the King of England, he said that such a title and such authority belong to that Crown.

Paris, January 23, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 29. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

168. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

One of the English Captains, who was expected, has arrived at Leghorn with much money. He left two ships at Naples and one at Civita Vecchia. They will also arrive. The Captain in the meantime has made himself at home in Leghorn, having married a wife.

Florence, 29th January, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1610, Dec. 14, 18, 21, 28, containing Dr. Matthew Lister's reports on Cranborne's health in Padua.

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1611.
Jan. 29.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

169. Giovanni Mocenigo, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador, lately in Venice, when passing through Savoy had an audience with the Duke on the subject of the marriage of the King's daughter to the Duke's son; the Spanish would assent in order to hinder the French match.

Rome, 29th January, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 30.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

170. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

To-morrow the Count of Ruffia is to leave for England; he will pass through Paris. He is to observe how matters stand and to regulate his negotiations in England accordingly. He is to explain the true nature of the agreement between Spain and Savoy about which the Spanish are spreading lies.

Turin, 30th January, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 4.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

171. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Monday morning I went to an audience of the King. This was granted me very promptly after his return to London. I spoke about the Ambassador Wotton's leave-taking and the presentation of Sir Dudley Carleton, in the terms of your Serenity's instructions, assuring him that the one was welcomed cordially as his Majesty's minister and as a gentleman who gives proofs of prudence and ability, the other was allowed to depart most unwillingly on account of the experiences your Serenity had had of his singular qualities. I took the opportunity to thank his Majesty for the honour done me by sending Lord Hay to me at the time that Viscount Cranborne was in Venice along with the son of the Great Chamberlain. The King was much pleased at the praise of his two Ambassadors and showed the special esteem in which he holds this friendship. As he enlarged on topics in honour of the Republic this gave occasion to his Majesty to dwell on a phrase of mine in which I assured him that the whole State, all the nobility and especially those who govern, are devoted to him and are convinced of his great prudence and excellent disposition. Of this he showed himself convinced, being confirmed in it by what his Ambassador, who reckons himself a Venetian, had reported to him. His Majesty assured me that he paid more attention to the Legation at Venice than to any other; and that is the case, for almost at every Court the English Embassy has been vacant for many months except at your Serenity's Court, and in fact Digby* was appointed to Spain, a year after the return of his predecessor†; while in Flanders it is twenty months since there has been an Ambassador and yet

* Sir John Digby; *see* Cal. S.P. Dom. 1611-1618, p. 22.
† Sir Charles Cornwallis.

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one hears no one named, although the Archduke has appointed a gentleman to reside here.

At the same audience I recommended, in the interest of those poor people of Zante, the case of the "Red Camel," which was cast away on these shores. I said that the Earl of Arundel, into whose hands the ship and cargo had fallen, standing with unwonted rigour by his claims, the merchants would consent to a legal settlement of the point provided that the cargo was so safely deposited that the Judge could at one and the same time declare ownership and put the owners in possession without further litigation. The Earl is a person of great quality, while the petitioners are foreigners, and they begged his Majesty to interpose his authority that they might be supported. The King appeared displeased at the Earl's hardness; he said he had spoken to him on other occasions, but he did not think it well to interpose his authority on a point which the Earl might feel to be prejudicial to his jurisdiction. On the question of warehousing the cargo he thought the request just and promised to call, that very day, the Judge of the Admiralty Court to see whether there were any reasons against it. Lord Salisbury repeated these same ideas to me a little later. He offered his aid in this matter in all that might depend on his Excellency.

As I have not been able, so far, to induce the three prisoners who are surety for ten thousand ducats for the plunder of the "Reneria e Soderina" to give satisfaction I have caused them, on an order of the Council, to be shut up in a bad prison, for hitherto by favouritism and bribes they have been living in the house of the jailer, and have enjoyed a certain freedom to go out secretly. I hope they will finally come to some decision in the matter. As yet they have discovered about 6,500 ducats, which they are trying to recover from the hands of a merchant who was entrusted with this money to trade in the Levant.

London, 4th February, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

172. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marshal de Laverdin arrived on Wednesday of last week. He was met at the King's orders by the Earl of Pembroke eight miles away with a following of about thirty carriages, and was conducted to his lodging, where he is nobly entertained with all his train. On Sunday he had audience in the presence of the whole Court. It was confined to mere compliments, nor, so far, has he given sign of being entrusted with any negotiation. The day after to-morrow his Majesty will swear the articles of the Alliance in his Chapel. Meantime the King wishes to have the Marshal with him at Hampton Court, and thither he has gone for a couple of days. Everything is being done to entertain these French gentlemen. I have not failed in due politeness to his Excellency, who has returned my courtesy so punctually that the very first day after he had seen the King he came to pay me a visit and to honour this Embassy, a step which was remarked by the whole Court.

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As to the affairs of Germany there is considerable doubt here, as they hold that the larger part of the Militia now in the Milanese will go to that country. They are not without hopes that Saxony will be satisfied by being made joint "possessioner," and Neuburg with the administration of the Electorate, while Deuxpont will administer the State. This solution was proposed by his Majesty to the Prince of Anhault. At the Hague there is a rumour that Neuburg is about to go to that city, and after some negotiation there he would come over to England, but here I cannot find that they know anything about it. Suspicion about Germany prevents the Dutch from disbanding a part of their troops. They have thirty-five thousand infantry still enrolled. They seem inclined to break up the French troops first, as the Queen declares she will not continue their pay. The Swedish Ambassadors left Holland two weeks ago; after long negotiation they got nothing but words. The Ambassador of Morocco has started on his return to his Master. He is greatly impressed by the power of the United Provinces, which omitted nothing that could give him satisfaction, for they hold that his Master may very well be a useful instrument to hold in check the forces of Spain, and the capture of El Arisch was by no means well received, indeed they would not believe it, for that port is very well placed to trouble Dutch vessels trading to the East Indies.

The question of transit for Antwerp has come up again. The Zealanders have been offered certain recognition and are more favourably inclined. They know that if they do not yield the Flemish will make every effort to develope Dunquerque, which would be a great blow to the Dutch.

Lady Arabella is in bed so afflicted and ill that the King has been obliged to postpone her departure for Durham for another twenty days. She is relegated to Durham and her husband is a closer prisoner than ever.

The Queen of France on hearing that the Duke de Bouillon had begged to have near him Melville (*Mulvino*), who is a prisoner in the Tower, has sent to beg the King that he on no account should allow Melville to cross to France. She considers him a brain as unquiet as it is quick and sharp, and above all a most subtle Calvinist. But as there arrived at the same moment a person from the Duke to thank the King for the favour and to take possession of Melville, his Majesty feels that to refuse him after promising him would seriously affect his honour. Nor is he lacking in desire to set Melville at liberty, as he has at all times had great liking for his learning and ready wit.

London, 4th February, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 5. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

173. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

They say a decree of the Sultan's has been issued ordering that in Moldavia they shall receive as Prince the person who is now in the house of the English Ambassador. The Transylvanian*

* Stephen Bogdan.

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and his Ambassador here are extremely desirous of this. The Ambassador says he will not present himself to the Grand Signor till the other has kissed hands for the principality of Moldavia. They, however, desire to wait the return of agents, who will inform them how things stand in the Moldavia; if both the Moldavian and the Walachian are quite out of the province, they will declare this favourite of the King of England and the Transylvanian.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 5th February, 1610 [M.V.]

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Feb. 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

174. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Confederation between the Princes of the Union, England, Denmark and the States will soon be stipulated; they say if they speak clearly from France to Spain there might be peace.

Paris, 9th February, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

175. MARC' ANTONIO CORRER, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

After the ceremony of swearing the treaty in the Royal Chapel on Sunday last, his Majesty kept the Marshal de Laverdin and the Lieger to dinner with him and the Prince, his son; and the day was passed in the usual dancing. Among the many topics of conversation at table, the King said that the Duke of York wished to be a soldier in the service of the Republic of Venice, that he had offered himself as such to my predecessor during the late differences with the Pope, and he always renewed the offer every time he saw me. He wishes to come to Venice to offer himself personally to your Serenity and to walk in the Piazza of San Marco, and much else in honour of that Serene dominion and its representatives. The Marshal is hurrying his departure, urged, as he says, by couriers express; nothing keeps him but the Queen's Masque, which takes place the day after to-morrow. The couriers from France have caused a rumour to spread that peace will not last long in that kingdom. Here they regret it, because they desire its continuance and because the renunciation of Sully causes alarm as to the suppression of the Huguenots. The Marshal has had many invitations from the King and the Prince to go hunting with the one and to engage in chivalrous exercises and the game of pall-mall (*palea*) with the other; but most of these have been put off owing to the death of the Earl of Dunbar,* a Scot, who was brought up with his Majesty and possessed his entire confidence, and was alone the partner of his most intimate secrets. By his death a seat in the Council and a ribbon of the Garter are vacant; also the posts of Commissioner General for Scotland, the Treasurership, Controllership, and another important office in that kingdom. He leaves to his two daughters, one married in Scotland, and one engaged to the son of the Lord Chamberlain, it may be forty thousand crowns of income, almost all amassed after the King

* George Hume; *see* Cal. S.P. Dom. 1610, Dec. 9.

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came to this throne, besides a large amount in ready money. His Majesty has bewailed him tenderly, and spent the whole day of his death in bed, nor is he yet at all well. This makes the Court sad.

The differences between Denmark and Sweden on the subject of frontiers was to be arranged by Commissioners through the intermediation of the Duke of Brunswick; but as the Swedish Commissioners did not keep their appointment at Holstein the other Commissioners left in disgust and to the great wrath of their Sovereign. This has caused the greatest sorrow to the United Provinces, which did all that in them lay to bring about an accommodation. They wrote to the King begging him to omit no representations in favour of peace, and he has let the King of Denmark understand very clearly that he is not to count on help from England. A war between Sweden and Denmark would open the way for the aggrandisement of Poland, to which they are very much averse here.

Among personages contemplated for marriage to the Prince is the second sister of the Grand Duke of Tuscany. The Queen favours this match more than any other. On the occasion when the Secretary of the Grand Duke was presenting their Highnesses portraits, she even went so far as to let her wish be clearly seen, declaring that she had excellent information about the lady and asking for her portrait. In course of conversation she let it be seen that she was very much opposed to a French alliance, either because of some dislike conceived on this point, or because such is her conviction. The Secretary, after some deprecatory remarks, said that if such a match were really to be concluded, there was sufficient nobility of birth, quality of the person and a good sum of money, and his Master could satisfy their Majesties on all these points. He will do all he can to keep the affair alive and has good hopes of bringing it to a happy conclusion; for though his Majesty will be induced with difficulty to accept an alliance with one of another religion; still he will be forced to it by the want of anyone who professes his own. I have all this from a sure source.*

In Holland they are continuing negotiations for the Antwerp transit. The conclusion is delayed by the serious illness of M. de Barneveldt, who, though with hardly any hope of sound health, has all the most important affairs in his hands.

The Dutch have at last executed some of the leaders in the rising of Utrecht. The King will leave for Royston the second day of Lent if the death of the Earl of Dunbar does not make him change his plans. He will remain at the chase till Holy Week.

I will await the arrival of Foscarini.

London, 11th February, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 13. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

176. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Count of Ruffia left two days ago for Paris and England.

Turin, 13th February, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

* Antonio Lotti.

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1611.
Feb. 16.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

177. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Sir Henry Wotton, late Ambassador of England to your Excellencies, was here four days ago. To-day he has seen the Queen; nor are honours wanting both on account of the Sovreign he represents and because of his own merits. The Prince of Condé sent to visit him. The Duke of Guise has secured him honour by lodging him in his own house. His Majesty sent to see him. He will stay here some days, nor will I fail in such offices as are proper and due. I imagine that your Excellencies will have heard from the Ambassador Barbarigo that Wotton had three audiences of the Duke of Savoy; the first lasted half an hour, the second two hours and the third was much longer. The first was merely complimentary; *the second to urge the Duke to draw close to and to come to an understanding with your Excellencies;* the third dealt with reciprocal alliances and good understandings about marriages and so on. I will not dwell on what your Excellencies will have heard long ago; but I will conclude by saying that as far as I can discover both the King and Queen of England are much more inclined to the Prince of Savoy; so that match may be concluded.

Paris, 16th February, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 21.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

178. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet, and spoke as follows:—

"Most Serene Prince, so well based and so solid is the good understanding between the King of Great Britain and your Serenity that it needs no further confirmation, and I need not come here to take up your time in the midst of your other heavy occupations; nevertheless I am here to give you an account of my Master's health and prosperity, and to congratulate your Serenity that your negotiations in Constantinople have terminated as was for your service and as his Majesty's Ministers desired. He is delighted that the secret enemies who have sought to disturb the quiet of this Serene Dominion are left without the fruit of their evil designs, and of the discord they were striving to create under the specious appearance of good. By God's grace they have not achieved the end they proposed. And speaking on this point more clearly, I will, by your Serenity's leave, declare that his Majesty when he first came to the throne of England, neglecting the laws already passed by his predecessors, directed against both the life and the property of the Roman Catholics of the Kingdom, endeavoured by clemency and benignity to preserve his subjects in quiet and peace; nor did he seek from them aught else than due obedience and proper respect, which is the right of all Sovreign Princes. He governed his conduct by the three principles—fear of God, Peace, and Justice, by means of which the just Sovreign preserves his States in tranquillity and splendour. But finding that some under cloak of religion plotted and schemed against his own person, the weal of his Kingdom and of his States, he availed himself of the right conceded by laws divine, civil and human, and was forced to adopt remedies to prevent the

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progress of the enemy, and convert to their damage the plans designed against him. In doing so, however, his Majesty has displayed his singular clemency, for during all this time in such numerous occasions he has handed to the secular arm only a few, out of the many whom he might have consigned. Yet all the same I hear from Rome and elsewhere that these very people defame the King, seek to obscure his clemency, and endeavour to impress upon the popular mind ideas quite at variance with his Majesty's goodness, with a view to feeding bickering and discord. On this account some days ago, on receiving news that a book had been printed in Bologna by these people which in appearance attacked the King's Majesty but in fact impugned the sovreign authority of all Princes, I begged your Serenity to make such order thereon as seemed to you reasonable. I am quite sure that his Majesty will be highly pleased with the orders you have given, both as a sign of regard and also as a proof of your singular prudence in not permitting in your dominions books of such a scandalous nature, so pernicious and directed to the division of kingdoms. His Majesty, too, has taken and will take good order to render vain any such designs." The Doge replied that truly the good understanding between his Majesty and the Republic required no confirmation, but his Lordship's presence, with or without business, was always acceptable. As to the affair of Constantinople it was settled as reason required. He returned thanks that his Majesty and his Ministers found satisfaction therein. The conviction at the Porte and elsewhere that there was a loyal and sincere good understanding between his Majesty and the Republic was of constant service.

As to his Majesty's clemency, this was universally known; he was aware that when his Majesty found himself obliged to consign a priest to the secular arm he felt great repugnance in doing so, and only consented unwillingly in the interests of good government. It was a new and scandalous procedure, this of these days, that under the cloak of religion persons sought to introduce discord into kingdoms and to plot against the lives of Princes; it was a course of action detested by all the Saints and abhorred by good men, not ordained by God and contrary to all laws human and divine, and dangerous to the object of such laws.

When they had news of this book they used all diligence that it should not be divulged. They were assured that only four volumes had been brought into Venice; two had fallen into his Lordship's hands and two into the hands of the magistrates, and in this way they were suppressed. Steps are being taken that no more shall be introduced. The Ambassador may rest assured that the State will always show its regard and respect for his Majesty. His Serenity dwelt on the bad effect such books produced on the Catholic Religion itself, which it was their object to amplify; and by this means to obliterate in the minds of the people that respect which they bear towards secular Princes.

The Ambassador replied thanking his Serenity for his wise reply. Then passing from public to private affairs he said that the Earl (*sic*) of Cranborne (*Clambur*), an English baron who was here with the son of the Earl of Salisbury, Lord High Treasurer, had fallen ill at Padua, but was better and had come to enjoy the liberty of

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Venice and to offer his services to his Serenity. The Doge inquired as to his health, and promised all facilities which the said Earl might require.

Finally the Ambassador returned thanks for the courtesy of the sanitary officers in passing some of his property. The Doge said they had done well, and wherever his person was concerned he would always receive courtesy.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

179. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Sir Henry Wotton, the English Ambassador to your Excellencies, is still here awaiting the Count of Ruffia, appointed as Ambassador to England from the Duke of Savoy. They had agreed to make the journey together. This delay pleases Wotton but little, and the rumours flying about make him suspicious. He has dwelt at length to me on the favours shown him by the Duke. He did not conceal from me that when speaking to his Highness about your Excellencies he bore witness to the high esteem in which you hold the Duke. I have found out that the Duke would like the Garter which his father had, and Wotton holds for certain that if his Highness deals sincerely he will meet with all favour from the King.

Paris, 23rd February, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

180. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Many books attacking Bellarmine's have been published. The English Ambassador tells me that there, too, they are writing; and so both the beginning and the progress of the affair is displeasing to the good; for the one injures the safety and the rights of Sovreigns, the other does not benefit the Pope.

Paris, 23rd February, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 24. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

181. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Count Ruffia, who is expected here as Ambassador from the Duke of Savoy, is charged with a mission about the marriage of the Princess which had already been suggested by the Spanish Ambassador. This I am told by a person who penetrates all secrets. The Ambassador will be welcomed by their Majesties, who have always thought that the French marriage would never take place on account of the many obligations under which the Duke of Savoy is to the King of Spain. All the same the negotiations for this match are not looked upon as easy, for it is thought that the Duke has ulterior objects, while all Spain wants is to upset the match with the King of France's sister.

I understand that the Count Palatine, who also aspires to the Princess' hand, is sending an Envoy here, having changed his mind

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about coming in person. His Majesty advised him to suspend this visit, which is a sign that he wishes first to hear what his Ambassador, who lately left Venice, had negotiated in Turin, and also what Ruffia will bring with him. This mission from Savoy has roused great suspicion in the Secretary for Florence, who is afraid that they will discuss a marriage between the Prince of Wales and a Princess of Savoy. Nevertheless some favour recently shown to the Secretary and the extraordinary attention of the Earl of Salisbury lend colour to the belief that her Majesty's conversation with the Secretary about the second sister of the Grand Duke is based on the will of his Majesty and of his principal ministers.

Another Swedish Ambassador has arrived in Holland about the controversy with Denmark. He has been advised to send an Agent over here, who along with the Dutch Ambassador would urge the King to send a special Envoy to Denmark, a step the States are also disposed to take. It seems that every day there is a greater danger of open war between those two Sovreigns.

Among other difficulties the King of Denmark claims general dues of all vessels passing from the German sea to the Swedish. This, besides bringing in an ordinary revenue, would induce much of the merchandize to discharge in his own ports. Sweden threatens, if Denmark insists, to levy a similar rate, as she, too, holds places on the Straits. This is a point that interests the United Provinces no less because of their trade, for they have perhaps six hundred of their ships in those parts, than for the opening these discords would give to the advance of Poland and the hinderance to the union of the Protestant Princes. The United Provinces are very well supplied with troops, and they are filling up and preparing their companies rather than reducing a single one. They intend, however, to relieve themselves of this burden as soon as they are assured of the quiet of Germany. By last advices they were not without a doubt lest the disbanded troops from the Milanese should slip through to join the troops in Posen.

The readiness of the Margrave of Brandenburg to admit the Duke of Saxony to the "possession" of Cleves makes for quiet. They do not think much of the pretensions of Neuburg, for they imagine that finding himself unsupported he will be forced to bow to necessity. All these considerations are felt here, but the case is less urgent for them in that they are further off and have as bulwarks the United Provinces and the sea.

The question of transit for Antwerp has again been abandoned without any conclusion, for what would be given to Antwerp—which is now reduced to a very modest trade—would be taken from the other cities and especially from Middelburg.

The Marshal de Laverdin left last week. He received from the King upwards of four thousand ounces of silver-gilt plate, and from the Queen a diamond of great value. Last Monday the King and the Prince departed; they are to stay Holy Week at Royston for the chase. I paid my respects to them before they left. *In conversation with the Earl of Salisbury about the excellent qualities of these Princes the talk fell on the Duke of York, and his Excellency said: "He will be a lieutenant in your service"; I am of opinion that his*

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Excellency desired me to give him an opportunity to go further, but I thought it better not to face it.

At the departure of Marshal de Laverdin, M. de Bisseau* (Bisseo), the new French Ambassador, arrived and had instant audience of the King. I have omitted no steps to ensure the continuance of that good understanding which I enjoyed with his predecessor, who leaves this highly honoured and with a reputation for singular prudence.

London, 24th February, 1611.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 26. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

182. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Launch of the Earl of Warwick's galleon.

Florence, 26th February, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 2. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

183. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The people of Geneva, who are under the protection of this Crown, have made appeals to the King of Great Britain and to the States. The Count of Ruffia is expected here this evening.

Paris, 2nd March, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 5. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

184. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

Three English ships have arrived laden with a quantity of cloth, metal, spices, logwood (*verzin*).

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 5th March, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

185. Antonio Foscarini and Zorzi Guistinian, Venetian Ambassadors in France, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday afternoon the Count of Ruffia arrived. He expresses surprise at not finding Wotton here, as they had arranged to meet and go on to England together. Talking of the delay in his arrival he laid the blame on his Highness's orders, which had kept him many days at Lyons.

Paris, 9th March, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 10. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

186. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King before asking for a loan from his subjects has resolved to make a general regulation of the income and expenditure of the Crown. He has already sent to press certain orders forbidding

* *See* Winwood. *Mem.* III. 232.

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anyone soever to petition for certain revenues, or products, ordinary or extraordinary, which belong to his Majesty, nor yet for augmentation of pensions or farmings of any sort of merchandize which could in any way inconvenience the people. At the same time the Chancellor and Judges and other officers are forbidden to give execution to any concessions which may have been unwittingly granted by his Majesty in contravention of these dispositions. On the other hand a very long list of such revenues as may be sought for by his Majesty's good servants has been issued. I do not send you a copy, for its length is so great that it could not be translated in time for this post, and besides it would be merely tedious to those who are not interested. The reform of the pay list and of the table expenses for the Courtiers is expected in a few days. Expenses will be cut down. This will be a benefit to his Majesty, a convenience to his servants and a relief to the general public, owing to the necessity for supplying the royal household at very low prices. There is no doubt that these regulations are designed rather to gratify his subjects than to bring any real advantage to his Majesty, who only a few days ago made presents out of his own pocket to the amount of thirty or forty thousand crowns each.*

The affairs of Saxony, Brandenburg, and Neuburg are not claiming attention at present; in German matters all eyes are directed to the people of Posen. The preparations of the Duke of Savoy give food for reflection and frequent couriers have arrived from France to the French Ambassador. The Lords of Council affirm that his Majesty is resolved to support the people of Geneva and the Vallais in every way, and if the Ambassador Ruffia has orders to broach this subject he will neither give nor receive satisfaction. *It is not clear, however, what help those people can receive from this kingdom owing to the distance and to the fact that there is no communication by sea; also owing to lack of money, unless he make some assignment of the money owing by the Crown of France.* True it is that much of the youth of this country is desirous of toil, and it would not be surprising if some of them should receive help from his Majesty for that purpose.

The Swedish Agent who came here about the controversy with Denmark went to Newmarket to see the King, and on his return yesterday to London he found a person sent on purpose from Holland to press this business. His Majesty showed himself very much inclined to oblige the Swedish envoy and has referred him to the Lords of Council, with whom he has had a conference to-day in order to take some resolution.

The Prince has abandoned the French dress and has taken to the Italian; in this he has been followed by the Duke of York and by the larger part of their households. He says he will always wear it, as it seems to him more modest and more convenient in itself and less costly for the suite, as he cannot endure the changes of fashion which come every day from France. The Spanish Ambassador, in conversation with his Highness,

* *See* Cal. S. P. Dom., Feb. 1, 1611. Warrant to pay £8,000 each to the Earl of Montgomery, Viscount Fenton, Viscount Haddington and Lord Hay, and £2,000 to Sir Roger Ashton.

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congratulated him on having adopted the Spanish dress, but had for his answer that it was really nearer Italian.

Thanks to the efficacious recommendations of his Majesty to the Admiralty Judge on behalf of the merchants of Zante, who had currants on board the "Red Camel," his Lordship has shown himself so determined that the Earl of Arundel shall immediately make effective deposit of all that came into his hands that the Earl himself has come to a voluntary composition, leaving to the merchants two thirds of the said capital. I consider this a very great advantage, for I know how much a law suit costs, especially for foreigners, against a personage of such importance, besides the fact that the whole case was very doubtful.

I have also been approached by the sureties in the case of the "Soderina," as they begin to find it unpleasant to live in such close confinement, but they make such demands as yet that I have not been able to make up my mind to accept their offers, as I hope that in a few days they will become more reasonable. The Spanish ship captured by the French and brought in here has been handed over to the French again on the deposit of a caution, and the question of whether she was taken beyond the Equator has been referred to the French Courts.

Another sentence has been issued by the Admiralty Court in favour of some Englishmen, who have brought to England a cargo with Spanish marks of sugar worth thirty thousand ducats. This they said they bought from the Viceroy of Algiers. The Ambassador denied that the sugar had ever been in Barbary, but not only has he received no support but at the very moment when his secretary was moving the Chancellor for leave to appeal a very curt answer was returned along with complaints of the justice meted out in Spain to the English race. *This bitterness arises, as I hear, from a very bad report of the nature of the King's chief Ministers which the late Spanish Ambassador presented to his Catholic Majesty. The Ambassador is extremely angry and wrote to the King making great complaint; he received a smooth answer but expects no fruit. He is much mortified and goes about declaring that he will do a bad turn at the Spanish Court. This will add to the ill-humour.*

Yesterday, while in audience with the Queen, who was pleased to keep me with her in her privy chamber, she touched on the religion of the City of Venice, and showed her belief that it had departed very far from the ritual of Rome; but I not only in vigorous language assured her of the contrary, but I affirmed that the Republic had at all times shown herself most obedient to the Pope in matters spiritual, while as a temporal Sovreign she had never yielded any of her rights; that reply was weighed by her Majesty, who showed her satisfaction with both parts of it. (Usci a parlarmi della religione della città de Venetia, mostrando creder che sia versificata grandemente dal rito di Roma ma io non solo con parole molto efficaci l'assicurai del contrario ma l'affirmai che l'altretanto la Serenissima Republica si conserverà in ogni tempo ubbidentissimo al Pontefice nelle cose spirituali quanto come a Principe temporale non ciederà mai alcuna parte delle sue ragioni;

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la quale risposta fu pesata da sua Maestà che mostrò di compiacersene grandemente non meno per l'una che per l'altra parte.)

London, 10th March, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 12. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

187. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The new Persian Ambassador has arrived at Court with a suite of twenty-five persons. He is the same man who was in Venice six years ago with merchandize. He has in his special service an Augustinian Friar. He has had audience and been well received by his Majesty, who is at his charges at the rate of one hundred crowns a day. His intentions are not thoroughly known, but it seems that they are not very different from those of the other Ambassador, Sherley, who is still here without any definite answer. The gist of the business is the Persian's offer to send all merchandize from Ormuz to Lisbon—which would be a great gain to the Spanish Crown—on condition that the King of Spain should attack the Turk. He has brought two hundred bales of silk, as a sample; it is very fine and has been sold in Lisbon at four ducats the pound. I have endeavoured to find out whether this change of route is convenient. They found it longer but not costly. It is thought the King will give fair promises to induce the Persian to establish the route and will then settle as suits him best. If this route be established it will cause some injury to the market of Venice, where that silk usually arrives from Syria.

Madrid, 12th March, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 12. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

188. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

They are delighted at the capture of El Arisch. From its position it will be a most important bulwark against the pirates.

Madrid, 12th March, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 17. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

189. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Wotton arrived only on Friday of last week. He went on to Royston, where the King is at present, such was his Majesty's will. His Lordship has omitted no marks of regard towards this Embassy whereby he might prove the affection he feels towards the Serene Republic. I have done everything to confirm him in it by showing him all honour and by attesting to him the love and esteem in which your Serenity holds him, as I think it well to keep this Minister in a good disposition, especially as he alone has had long experience of the City of Venice.

The reason why the Ambassador of Sweden comes to this Court is because the Estates of the United Provinces have declined to

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interfere in the dispute with Denmark, except with the consent and assistance of the King of England, on account of his relationship to the King of Denmark. The Envoy has obtained letters vigorously urging the King of Denmark to abstain from violence and to submit his differences to the Estates of the United Provinces as Sweden has already offered to do. These letters will be conveyed by Dutch Ambassadors sent on purpose, who will be followed by another whom his Majesty promises to send as soon as possible.

The news that Saxony, Brandenburg and Neuberg are disposed to come to terms over the Duchy of Cleves give sure hope that this will take place. It will be joyfully welcomed by the Protestant Princes, who are not without alarm lest there may be great troubles on this score. Above all the United Provinces desire it because of the anxiety and expense entailed upon them by this neighbouring fire. The warlike preparations of the Duke of Savoy also *keep these Princes very anxious. The Spaniards say it is a mere trifle and the King of Spain has no hand in it; but not much faith is placed in this.*

The Count of Embden has agreed with the burghers to refer his claims to the King of Great Britain and to the United Provinces; and to settle the question the Ambassador resident at the Hague and the Dutch Commissioners will go to Gröningen (*Croning*).

The Dutch Embassy to Constantinople was on the point of departure; its mission was to convey an answer to the invitation, sent by the Grand Signor, requesting, in courteous terms, an alliance with the Dutch, an alliance which he says he would esteem the more that the Dutch are hostile to Spain and to the Grand Duke. The occasion of this was the present which the Dutch made to the Port of the slaves found in the galleys at the capture of Sluys.

The Queen left last Tuesday for Greenwich; she will stay there till the King's return, which will not be till Holy Week. Meantime the Court is quite empty.

The King has ordered that Lady Arabella shall leave London for Durham before his return. She has been relegated there and I hear the order will be carried out one day next week; the delay has not succeeded in securing a revocation of the order.

The complaints of the Spanish Ambassador have prevailed so far that appeal has been granted in the case of the sugar brought to this kingdom by English seamen. His Lordship desired that his cause should be heard not by the ordinary Courts, but by the Council; but in this he has not succeeded.

Baron Fenton,* Captain of the Guard, has been appointed to the Privy Council, in which there were only two Scots left; and the King has conferred the Archbishopric of Canterbury on the Bishop of London.† *The Catholics complain extremely, as he is held to be their bitterest persecutor; just as his predecessor was held to be inclined to our faith.*

A few days ago a work by Father Capello, of the Order of the Minorites, was sent to the King. It was printed in Rome. It attacks the errors of this sect and the writings published in England

* Thomas Erskine, Viscount Fenton.
† George Abbot.

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these last few years. Capello's book is thought to be deficient in learning rather than in modesty.

Casaubon is writing on this topic and especially against the opinion of the Jesuits; he claims to do so skilfully and with great moderation. As a matter of fact he is not of a mind far removed from the Catholic faith, and shows a great desire for some accommodation, which would allow the heretics to draw near to Rome.

London, 17th March, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 22. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

190. Zorzi Giustinian and Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassadors in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Count of Ruffia left for England on the day we named. He will propose marriage alliances.

Paris, 22nd March, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 22. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

191. Zorzi Giustinian, retiring Ambassador to England, and Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

A joint representation from both that the cost of both the English and the French Embassy is excessive.

Paris, 22nd March, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 24. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

192. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Ruffia, Ambassador of the Duke of Savoy, reached London yesterday. He is lodged and entertained by the King's orders. This unwonted honour is attributed to the honours which were shown to Wotton in Turin when he was on his way back from Venice. *I am assured by a very great Minister that Ruffia's mission is to ask the hand of the Princess, and perhaps to suggest one of the Princesses of Savoy for the Prince of Wales. On this second point I understand that for certain he will find but little inclination; on the other point it is not certain which way the King leans. His interests are far away from Italy; nor is there wanting a suspicion that the Duke of Savoy may have other more recondite ends. There are no small difficulties; a Princess with a large following of a different religion would not be easily received in Italy, nor would the Pope be readily induced to give his assent. At the same time representations in favour of the Count Palatine, who earnestly aspires to this marriage, are not neglected. Many support this match on the grounds of religion. The Count will come himself in a few months; the Duke of Bouillon would have come over in the meantime had there not been some slight difficulty; the King is greatly inclined to this match. The Savoyard Ambassador will be all the more welcome if it really turns out that it is true, as Lord Salisbury heard two days ago, that the people of Geneva are quite sure of the intent of his Highness. This is a point they are anxious about here; England had been asked for*

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and had promised help in case of an attack. From conversation between members of our suites, I gather that the Ambassador intends to stay here some weeks, awaiting, as he says, orders from the Duke his Master. The Spanish minimize the idea of negotiations for a marriage, and refer the mission to the mere continuance of negotiations in France and Spain. On the other hand the French show great suspicion. They exclude any idea of a match between France and Savoy, nor would they like to see one between England and Savoy. They will oppose such an issue.

The affairs of the King of Poland are progressing favourably in Russia. For after the capture of Moscow the whole country began to take the oath to his son; and the besieged of Smolensk seem disposed to do the same. The King himself wishes to be recognised as sovereign until his son is of an age more fit to govern; for there is great doubt of the faith of that population, which is reckoned insincere and prone to ruses. Demetrius is amassing fresh troops with the help of the Tartars, but the Polish General has sent a part of his army against him. Basilewski, lately Lord of Muscovy, his wife and two brothers, Demetrius and John, have been brought to Poland. The disorders in Bohemia have so completely eclipsed the affairs of Germany that no one mentions Cleves.

The Swedish envoy has left. He confirmed his master's readiness to submit his difficulties not merely to the Dutch but even to his Majesty, in spite of his being brother-in-law to Denmark. This will greatly facilitate the accord. The King of Sweden has given his daughter to his nephew, brother of the King of Poland, who as a Calvinist has always lived with his uncle.

The Queen will return to London to-day and the King and Prince to-morrow, to pass Easter.

London, 24th March, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 24. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

193. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Bishop of Lincoln, preaching a few days ago in the Royal Palace, praised very expressly auricular confession, invocation and fasting, things entirely removed from the practise of religion in this kingdom, and greatly abhorred by the purer of the Calvinistic sectaries called Puritans. Everyone remarked the fact, but the Puritans were indignant, and made observations showing it; nor would it be very strange if one day, should the King live, these practices should be introduced and put in use.

The priests in this kingdom are negotiating with a view to the appointment of four or five Bishops by the Pope. They have drawn up separately various memorials on this point, as they have found opportunity to meet five or six together. In these memorials they name the persons they hold most fitted for the office, and they put forward the reasons for their wish, especially the greater veneration the English Catholics would show and the great effect their death would produce should any be condemned by the law. The Jesuits on other occasions have opposed such requests, and the successful issue of the petition is

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now all the more eagerly desired in that those fathers have in their hands the whole management of Catholic affairs in this kingdom and by their rules are debarred from accepting the episcopal dignity. (Il Vescovo de Lincon predicando pochi giorni sono nel medesimo Palazzo del Rè, lodò assai espressamente la confessione auriculare, l'oratione, et il digiuno; cose in tutto lontane dall'uso della Religione in questo Regno, et grandemente abhorite dalli più puri setatori di Calvino, chiamati puritani: ogn' uno vi ha fatta reflessione, ma questi in particolare lo hanno havuto grandemente a male, et proferte parole di gran sdegno, nè sarebbe gran cosa che un giorno vivendo il Re presente siano introdotte, et poste in uso.

Li sacerdoti di questo Regno trattano al presente che il Papa li concedi quattro o cinque Vescovi, hanno formato a parte a parte diversi Memoriali, secondo che hanno havuto commodo di ridursi cinque o sei insieme, nelli quali nominano quelli soggetti che stimano più atti a questo Ministerio, et rendono molte ragioni di tale loro desiderio, specialmente per maggior veneratione dei Catholici, et il grande effetto che farebbe la loro morte in occasione che siano condannati dalla giustitia.

Li giesuiti altre volte si sono opposti a simile instanza, tanto maggiormente è hora desiderato il buon suo esito, quanto che essi padri al presente hanno in mano il governo delle cose appartinenti al buon indirizzo della Religione Catholica in questo Regno, et non sono per le loro costitutioni capaci della dignità episcopale.)

London, 24th March, 1611.

[*Italian, deciphered.*]

March 26. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

194. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

I have been told in confidence that they are preparing a portrait of the second of these Princesses to send it to England. I don't know if there is any closer negotiation.

Florence, 26th March, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

March 27. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

195. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

It is many months since the English Ambassador left without a successor being named. They are now pleased to hear that the King is sending an Envoy, and he is expected here in a few days.* They will treat him with all courtesy, *to keep up a friendly appearance at least with that Crown.*

Madrid, 27th March, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

* Sir John Digby. *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Ap. 8, 1611.

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April 2.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

196. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Earl of Warwick has advised the Grand Duke to secure the port of Leghorn by removing some forced land that was created by the Grand Duke Ferdinand with a view to building an arsenal, which, however, was abandoned when the mistake was discovered.

Florence, 2nd April, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

April 2.
Senato, Secreta, Mar. Venetian Archives.

197. Laus Deo, 1611. On the 22nd March.

The Governors and Guardians of the Arsenal (*Proveditori et Patroni*) have made a contract with Donna Paula, lead founder at San Salvadore, at the Sign of the "Spirito Santo," widow of the late Piero Belzani, to cast sheets of English lead to the number of thirty thousand, to line the Galeons of State, as *per* sample.

[*Italian.*]

April 7.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

198. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet, and after apologising for the trouble he was causing in the midst of important affairs of State, he said: "Among other commissions given me by the King my Master on my departure for this city was the affair of the Prince de Joinville, who desires to enter into your glorious service. Although on my arrival I found this business in progress, both by letters from my sovreign and representations from my predecessor, I deferred raising the point and waited a fitting occasion. Now that I understand that the Queen of France has written letters to your Serenity and caused her Ambassador to approach you, and the Prince moreover has sent one of his gentlemen expressly for this purpose, I should be greatly wanting in my duty as a good Minister if I too did not concur with them in making friendly representations to your Serenity on behalf of the Prince who is so closely bound to his Majesty by affection and blood." He then went on to point out that the Prince had weight with both Crowns; could easily raise troops; had shown himself ready to serve the Republic. It is the part of a prudent Prince to prepare for war in time of peace *si esset nemicus ad portas.* This is a special maxim of this Republic, which makes continual preparations in that arsenal of hers which is a wonder of the world and a terror to her foes. The Ambassador will not enlarge on the merits of the Prince nor the greatness of his house; both are well known to the Doge. Only this is no ordinary offer. The Prince will, should occasion require it, be able to draw the forces of the two Crowns to the service of the Republic.

The Doge replied that it was about three years ago that the Ambassador's predecessor, in his Majesty's name, mentioned this subject. The offer was gratefully accepted, but no further steps were taken for reasons of State. The question will now receive due attention. Nothing further can be said just now. The Republic is much attached to the Prince's house and to the Prince himself, who is known to be as frank a sword as there is in the world.

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The Ambassador said "I will add nothing more, but will wait what may be decided on by your Serenity's wisdom. I must now return thanks for the favour shown to that merchant on whose behalf I sent to beg that certain bales of leather belonging to him and lying at the Board of Health should not be touched, but that his arguments should be heard. Further, as the skins are likely to be ruined if not attended to, being rabbit skins and very delicate, I now beg your Serenity to allow the merchant to remove them on depositing their value at the Board of Health."

The Doge replied that immediately that the request was received orders were given that the goods were not to be touched. But as there was some small conflict of jurisdiction between the Board of Health and another office "we have not been able to wind up the affair; the matter would not any way have taken long, but now that your Lordship has pointed out the danger of the skins being ruined, these gentlemen will take information and give what orders may be necessary for the satisfaction of your Lordship."

The Ambassador said that he would always try to encourage the trade of English merchants in Venice and therefore willingly appealed to the grace of the Doge, whose pardon he begged if he was sometimes troublesome. "There is a merchant here, master of an English ship which brought much goods from Ireland; and he has to recover his freights from various merchants here who have taken him into Court. Now it is most costly for him to lie here with all his crew on his shoulders and the procedure in the ordinary courts can be drawn out as long as the lawyers choose, and so this merchant begs your Serenity to name him a special judge who will hear and decide his suit and not put him to such worry and loss."

The Doge told the Ambassador to leave his petition and it would be attended to.

The Ambassador said he never meant his request to interfere with the course of justice; "and now that I have annoyed your Serenity with details, it is only right that I should conclude my audience by wishing a happy Easter to your Serenity and the whole Republic; begging you to be assured that if I attend you less often than others who hold a like office here I nevertheless serve you and revere you every day in my heart."

After some further compliments the Ambassador took his leave and left.

[*Italian.*]

April 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

199. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The negotiations of the Ambassador of Savoy have been conducted here with great honour to him, and graciously received by the King. His chief commission was to propose an alliance and a bond of a double marriage, each of them giving a daughter, one to the Prince of Wales, the other to the Prince of Piedmont. The proposal was referred to the Great Council of State, but the question of the Prince's engagement was absolutely excluded; as he is so young the King means to put it off for some time, perhaps with the intent to give him a daughter of France or of Spain, both of which Crowns he plays with

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this hope. On the point of the marriage of the Princess, I am told by the Councillors themselves that the Ambassador pleaded that he was not commissioned to treat that question alone; but he held out good hopes. I know that on the topic of religion he has had long conferences with the King and with Lords of the Council. The King claims that it be stipulated, in a special clause, that the Princess and all her suite shall be free to exercise in private the religious rites of this kingdom; and yet I hear that he told the Ambassador that provided force were not used to her he would never be displeased if she attended Catholic Churches. On the side of the Duke there is a desire to pass over this point without making express mention of it, perhaps in the hope of finding less resistance in the Pope. It is thought that the fact that the Princess was brought up in the Catholic faith up to the age of six, will render it more easy for her to pass over to it. The Ambassador is leaving to-morrow *in spite of the fact that he announced he was going to stay two months. He declares that the Duke will immediately send him or another Envoy to Rome to treat about a dispensation. It is believed that the King made him leave, for if the negotiation met with opposition from the Pope or any other hinderance, he does not think it would be for his dignity that the person who was negotiating the marriage should be here. One of the Council told me that there is another point to be resolved besides the point of religion; I have not discovered what, except that it is a proposal from the King to the Duke; it may be some objection to an attack on Geneva or on lands belonging to the Swiss. All the same, if the diversity of religion does not constitute an obstacle all other difficulties will be surmounted. Some say that as this affair was once before mooted by the Spanish, so the Ambassador Wotton on his passage through Turin, upon orders from the King, invited the Duke to send this Embassy. However that may be, he has received greater favours and honours from his Majesty than have been shown for a good while to any other Ambassadors. The King at a public banquet drank to the health of the Prince of Piedmont. The French have shown signs of great suspicion and have done all they could to damage the reputation of the Duke of Savoy and to upset an alliance between two Princes, both of whom border on France. And this happened that the French Ambassador after naming an hour when the Savoyard could return his visit, shut the door in his face on the ground that he had first visited Spain on the plea that Spain had been the first to visit him. The French don't admit this plea, especially as they say that the visit took place before the Ambassador had been presented to the King. Nor have other occasions of scandal and annoyance been wanting to the French, whereby the Spanish Ambassador has made advances. The Savoyard Ambassador told me he would make his journey by Flanders and Lorraine, leaving France on one side. He will travel as fast as he can. I must not omit to say that from the French quarter it has been remarked to me that the Duke's troops are still all on foot; that the French frontiers are well guarded; so too Geneva and the Swiss territory; therefore it is not impossible the Duke may have some designs on Italy supported by Spain. I, however, showed that I paid no more heed to such considerations than was required by mere politeness.*

London, 7th April, 1611.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

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1611.
April 7.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

200. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Besides his other negotiations the Ambassador of Savoy has said that *the Duke, his Master, had during the life of Henry IV. contracted a marriage between the Prince of Piedmont and a daughter of the King. The Prince had never liked this contract nor consented to it; and now that the Queen of France wishes to defer the marriage till the King is of maturer age, both their Highness have thought it well not to bind themselves to an event so exposed to accidents. The Ambassador then went on to say that the submission made by Prince Filiberto did not take place as declared by the Spanish and such would have been entirely contrary to the orders of the Duke. The Duke has had to complain of the Prince for allowing himself to be persuaded by the Nuncios to go so far in their desire to preserve the peace of Italy.* The Ambassador also asserted most positively *that the troops massed in Piedmont have no other object than the protection of that State; that their number is not large and that they are all, at present, on the Milanese frontier, where the Spanish garrison is extraordinarily strong.* This last statement has given great satisfaction, as also has the news that the Duke of Saxony has accepted the proposal that he should be placed in "possession" of Cleves along with Brandenburg and Neuburg and should submit all claims to the Emperor along with the Electors.

The King has insisted that before he returned to London Lady Arabella should set out for Durham. For this purpose he has sent repeated messengers and has declared that he will not enter the city till his orders have been carried out. But as the lady refused to rise from her bed, being partly crushed by grief and partly pleading illness, she was taken a few miles out of London in a litter, and will continue her journey slowly.

The King has gone back to Theobolds and on Monday will be followed by the Prince. The Queen has gone to Greenwich and will stay there three weeks.

The city is almost quite free of plague, contrary to general expectation, for the great damp of the winter led people to look for much sickness.

London, 7th April, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

April 14.
Minutes of the Senate, Constantinople. Venetian Archives.

201. To the Ambassador in Constantinople.

Praising his action in the question of the negotiations between the Capudan Pasha and Count Maurice. He is to find out the opinion of the French and English Ambassadors. If they take the same view as the Republic the Ambassador is to act in their support.

Ayes 161.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 18.

[*Italian.*]

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1611.
April 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

202. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The point in the negotiations for the marriage of the Princess to Savoy which, as I wrote to you, still remained to be settled, is that at the same time a daughter of his Catholic Majesty should be given to the Prince of Wales. On this point I have been confidently assured by one of the Council that it will be difficult to reach a conclusion. Opinions are so divided among them on this subject, that no one can be sure of what will be the upshot. This request was put forward while the Ambassador was showing unwillingness to come to terms expressly as to liberty of conscience for the Princess and her suite. At that juncture he was informed from the King that he would give his daughter to the Prince of Piedmont if he received a daughter from his Highness on like conditions as regards religion. With this answer the Ambassador left, by way of Flanders. He received many presents of gilt plate; and on his special request two months' time was granted, during which his Majesty promises to listen to no propositions that may be made to him from other quarters. The Ambassador announces his intention of returning soon with ampler powers, and a greater assurance as to what the Duke can promise. This idea of an alliance with his Highness has its roots in a large degree in the suggestions of his Catholic Majesty's Ambassador, moved, I know not whether by a sincere desire for it or by a wish to further his own affairs and those of the Prince of Piedmont. However that may be he has in this way made great advances in the favour of the Court; and special signs of graciousness from the Queen have been observed, such as the honours paid to a sister, and to the daughter-in-law of the Ambassador, whom the Queen constantly had with her, and to whom she gave presents of some value. The French Ambassador is receiving constantly couriers on this business; nor does he omit aught that might hinder the issue. He has announced that he is confident of being able to do so. His Lordship is urging the suit of the Count Palatine and in this he is supported by the Scottish nation, always attached to France. He hopes that a Spaniard will never be preferred to the sister of his Master. All the same he knows quite well that the desire of the Queen and of the English nation is against him; one hears it openly said that French women have never succeeded in England. Large remittances from Spain have at last reached the Spanish Ambassador to enable him to make the usual presents to many persons about Court; those presents, it seems, had been suspended on account of the report furnished to his Catholic Majesty by Don Pedro de Zuñiga as to the little support he had always found in them. This event has increased the popularity of the present Ambassador.

At this moment there are many Scots at Court. Some are here on Scottish affairs, others in search of the posts vacant by the death of the Earl of Dunbar, some again about the succession to his fortune. That is to be divided between two daughters; one of whom is married in Scotland and the other engaged to a son of the Earl of Suffolk, the Great Chamberlain, and this threatens to raise a contest between the two nations. Already steps have been taken to dissuade the young lady from this match. This came to the King's ears and has angered his Majesty all the more so as the

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Scottish have declined to allow the King to settle the question of the said inheritance, which he desired to do in order to remove bitterness.

His Majesty informed of the evil plight of the Lady Arabella, and fearing to be generally judged to be too harsh, has given leave to her to remain for a month longer in the place where she is a few miles out of London, and has changed her place of confinement from Durham to a house belonging to Lord Cavendish (*Candich*), brother of her mother, which lies in the middle of the kingdom. To this last resolution Arabella does not assent, owing to the quarrels she has always had with her uncle, from whom she claims large estates. She hopes that within the time appointed her she will find new access to the King's grace.

As it came to my knowledge that in the hands of certain merchants were about three thousand ducats, the property of one of the sureties condemned to indemnify the plunder of the "Reniera and Soderina," I obtained an order in Council that they were to be handed over to me, and I hope to get them in a few days. Perhaps before I leave I may be able to exact the rest of the credit, or at least to receive such securities as will ensure its safely reaching the hands of the representatives for the interested parties within a brief period, and to them I will remit whatever may be paid to me.

Their Majesties and the Princes will return to London in the early days of May, and will leave again about the 10th. If my successor's purge prevents him from arriving before that date, as I fear may be the case, I shall perhaps be forced to wait here many weeks longer owing to their Majesties' absence.

London, 14th April, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

April 15. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

203. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Is sending on board the English ship "Mariana," the base coin found when the melting took place. They are in six cases with the sign of St. Mark on them.

Zante, 15th April, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

April 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

204. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The extraordinary drought in the country has deprived the King of his sport. He will return next week to London to stay till the weather changes, when he will go out again with M. de Vitry, who is coming on an invitation from France and is greatly desired, as he is a famous sportsman. *The Spanish are not without some suspicion that he may be charged, on this occasion, to make some representations about the marriage; this suspicion is increased by their knowing that many persons about the Court are in favour of the Palatine on the score of religion. I hear that the eldest son of the Duke of Neuburg will soon be in London to ask for the Princess in the Palatine's name,*

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while he will take the opportunity to make various representations on his own behalf in the matter of the Duchy of Cleves and his claims to the guardianship of the Palatinate. The Spanish Ambassador has sent his Secretary in haste to Madrid and this gives rise to conjecture on this matter of marriage. His Lordship told me that he is about to call attention to some difficulties over his remittances; and I know quite well that as yet not a penny of the pensions which he was to distribute to various courtiers has been paid so far. The Treasury is in want of money and there is a new debt of four hundred thousand ducats. The Lords of Council have been in long consultation. It has been proposed to create one hundred knights (Cavallieri) *on payment of four thousand ducats each, but no one has been found to offer the price. It seems now that they are not inclined to accept a donative of eight hundred thousand ducats offered by the merchants on condition that the customs are consigned to them for eleven years and are not altered. All the same the King continues his usual liberality, and in these last few days pensions have been granted to many persons, mostly Scottch, to the amount of eighty thousand crowns a year. The Earl of Salisbury, on the instigation of the Earl of Northampton, to meet the present difficulties, has resigned into the King's hands the Wardship of Minors, and to him, unless Lord Salisbury repents, will be paid all the revenues, which amount to a great sum. Lord Salisbury, however, retains the governorship in conjunction with some other personage. While the King was in the country in company with the Chancellor of Scotland* and many other subjects summoned from that kingdom, it was determined to establish a Council of Nine, with the Chancellor at their head, for the management of all Scotch affairs.† They did not choose to elect great subjects, and so already there is some murmuring. Nor does there seem to be complete satisfaction here either among the chief ministers; for the King more often orders execution of decisions than submits the decision of affairs to his Council as was wont to be done in the past; and so suspicion of the Scotch nation grows; and it is believed that as in the past some few Scots were admitted of the Council as a mark of honour but never took any active part in affairs of State, so now those same persons are endeavouring to draw themselves apart with the King in order to govern in this way and to rule the rest.* (*Ne anco da questa parte pare che sia intera sodisfatione nelli principali Ministri; commandando il Re più tosto ben spesso l'executione che remettendo al suo Consiglio la risolutione de' negocii, come è stato solito per il passato, onde si accresce la gelosia che tengono della natione Scocese et credono che si come per il passato alcuni di essa sono stati introdotti nel consiglio per lo termine di honore non si essendo mai molto ingeriti nelle cose di Stato, cosi hora procurino di ristringersi a parte con la Maestà sua per governar di questo modo, et comandar a gli altri.*)

After the death of the Earl of Dunbar, Robert Carr, also a Scot, a youth of a most modest nature, and always beloved by the King, has made such strides in his favour as it would seem that he alone is to dispose of everything. A few days ago he was created Viscount

* Alexander Seaton. Dunfermline.

† *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Royston. Ap. 4, 1611. "The King thinks of revoking the lieutenancy granted to the Earls of Dunbar and Cumberland and of governing by commission as before."

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Rochester, and therefore takes precedence of all Barons of the kingdom. He is the first of that nation to receive an English territorial title as being naturalized by grace. *All this is displeasing to the English; all the same everybody is endeavouring to secure his favour and good will. (Dopo la morte del Conte di Dunbar il Signor Robert Car, pur Scocese, giovine di modestissima natura et sempre amato dal Rè, si è avanzato nella gratia sua, che pare che solo sii per disponer d'ogni cosa. Fu dichiarito pochi giorni sono Visconte di Rochester, con che preciede tutti li Baroni del Regno; et è il primo di quella natione che ha ottenuto il titolo di provincia in Inghilterra come naturalizato per gratia. Vengono queste cose mal volentieri vedute dagli Inglesi tuttavia ogn'uno s'ingegna di acquistar la gratia et la benevolentia li lui.)*

Viscount Cranborne, son of the Lord Treasurer, was no sooner in London than he came to see me, even before he went to see the King at Royston. He omitted nothing that could make me understand his gratitude and the memory he preserves of the favours received from your Serenity. I replied in a suitable manner, and will not fail to cultivate this friendship, as it cannot fail to be of great service to this Embassy. On his way back he came through Flanders, where he was lodged and highly honoured by the Archdukes, who gave him on his departure a very beautiful jewel.

London, 21st April, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

April 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

205. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

There has been published recently the defence of a priest who was in prison for the oath of allegiance he had taken. His Majesty was greatly pleased and desired to see it before it was issued. He wished to alter some words, but the author refused and declared that if that were done he would write again against it. From France comes another book in answer to his Majesty's. This makes him more indignant than ever, and alienates his mind more and more from the Catholic faith. On this late Easter he was at great pains that his Council should communicate according to this rite. He took note of those who absented themselves from Court and complained bitterly of them, declaring that he would never love an apostate, so they call those who have abandoned the Protestant to embrace the Catholic faith.

The Spanish Embassy has been frequently surrounded by the officers of the Bishop and the Sheriff of London, in order to arrest those who frequent it at time of mass; the Ambassador has raised loud complaints in a note to the King, almost as though his freedom had been interfered with. On Monday he was introduced into the Council by the King's order, and was told that the Bishops and Magistrates of the City were greatly scandalized at his toleration of the English who*

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Ap. 6. Royston. "The masses at foreign Embassies to be considered." On Feb. 2nd Sir Henry Montague, Recorder of London, had reported the discovery of "things prepared for a mass" in Lockey's house, near Aldersgate. On Feb. 22nd the Keeper of Newgate was to be severely punished for allowing masses in prison. On Feb. 24th "the King would have the Spanish Ambassador's house watched to see who goes to mass, but not openly, so as to attract his notice."

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frequented mass in the Ambassadors' houses, and that they desired to consult on the remedy to be applied without injury to his privileges. The Ambassador replied that he neither invited nor knew any of those who occasionally attended his chapel at the hour of mass, nor were they known by his servants; that it was not for him to drive out those who came to his house; that he had always done his best to live modestly, nor had he made any innovation on the practice of his predecessors. "Very well," it was answered him, "if it is not for you to take care who comes in and who goes out, or if you do not intend to provide on this point we shall send and arrest them in your chapel"; but as the Ambassador showed great annoyance at this and declared that he had always lived quietly and bowed to the King's will and that they ought to treat him with a like consideration, these words were, as he himself told me, withdrawn, and the conversation closed pleasantly. They took this occasion to discuss the matter with me and with the French Ambassador. I was received by the whole Council at the stairs and was made to sit in the King's chair; the Earl of Salisbury, having first, in the name of all, begged my pardon for not having come themselves to my house, on the plea of avoiding talk in the town, and having abundantly professed the esteem in which your Serenity's representative was held, went on to say that the Bishops and Magistrates had complained, and that the King had sent an answer to the Spanish Ambassador's note, and had ordered the question to be discussed with the other Ambassadors to see how the abuse might be remedied, especially at the present juncture, at which a new Ambassador from Flanders was expected. They therefore asked me what privileges I claimed for the Embassy. After making a suitable reply to the compliments, I said that I thought, as far as I was concerned, there was no need to address such a question to me; for besides having only one mass at my house, and that at no fixed hour, I had always given orders that at that hour the doors should be shut, and the English who came near should be gently sent away. Their Excellencies therefore might be assured that if someone occasionally came in in the crowd of foreigners unobserved, it was not a matter worthy of any consideration, either for the number or the quality of these persons. I knew very well that in so delicate a matter the King himself desired that all violent or abusive language should be avoided and I would follow his example. I felt sure that as in the past it had never been needful to have an eye on my house, no more would it be in the future. That where the King's satisfaction or service was in question I had no desire to enquire what were my privileges, for this Embassy was established here only to serve and honour the King. I had always found in him great tokens of affection, and in all their Excellencies great prudence; and so I replied cheerfully that I esteemed no other privilege more highly than the King's benevolence and his satisfaction. The Earl of Salisbury said, and the Council almost with one voice confirmed him, that they had never expected any other answer from your Serenity's representative; that this was not a question raised for me especially, but for all Ambassadors; and while all applauded, Lord Salisbury said he was well aware the Venetians were not the Pope's greatest friends. I replied: "Nay, they are his most obedient sons in matters spiritual, but in matters temporal, after God, they depend on none but the Republic itself." For me it was enough to look after the religion

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of my household, for my sole mission in England was to preserve the true affection which united these two powers. After that I thanked the Council for its support of the parties interested in the ship "Soderina" and took my leave.

London, 21st April, 1611.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

April 22. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

206. That the English Ambassador be asked to attend in the Cabinet to hear as follows:

Reply to the request of the Prince de Joinville to be taken into Venetian service. The Republic will take into consideration the request when occasion arises.

Ayes 117.
Noes 15.
Neutrals 44.

[*Italian.*]

April 22. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

207. To the AMBASSADOR in England.

The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet on the 7th of last month and in his Majesty's name made a request in favour of the Prince de Joinville. You will make representations to the King in the sense of our answer to his Ambassador, which we enclose.

Ayes 142.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 3.

[*Italian.*]

April 23. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

208. GIACOMO VENDRAMIN, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Earl of Warwick is actively at work on his ship and, they say, on the excavation of the port of Leghorn; all the same it seems that this operation is harmful for the present on account of the stench of the excavated earth; and some think he will make the place uninhabitable, at least for a time.

Florence, 23rd April, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

April 28. Collegio Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

209. The resolution of the Senate of the 22nd touching the Prince de Joinville having been read to the Ambassador of the King of Great Britain, he said that he knew not what to add save that the King his Master would be well pleased with so gracious a reply, as his Majesty's sole desire was the convenience of the Republic. He asked for a copy of the resolution, if that were permitted, or at least that it might be re-read to him so that he might the more correctly transmit it to the King.

The Doge replied that it was not the custom of the Republic to give copies of resolutions, but the Secretary would re-read it to the Ambassador in the next room.

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The Ambassador then went on to say that there was an English merchant involved in smuggling along with the head of the Lazaretto, and it seems that there is a report that others of our nation are inculpated. If this were true it would be absolutely contrary to his Majesty's intent. This merchant assures me that at all times he has observed the rules of the Republic in this respect. If I have asked that this should be seen to by your Serenity I have not done this with intent to contest the authority of any magistrate, but merely that your Serenity might be assured of the innocence of his Majesty's subjects.

The Doge replied that to gratify the Ambassador they had resolved to hear what the merchant had to say, and it might be that he would be introduced into the Cabinet shortly after the Ambassador.

But it seemed clear from the trial that the Englishman had had a hand in the smuggling. "As your Lordship is well aware, this city is governed by laws, to which we must adhere. If anyone is aggrieved by the sentence of a magistrate there is appeal. Nevertheless to gratify your Lordship we will hear what the merchant has to say, and will endeavour to come to a reasonable conclusion, and leaning more to clemency than to rigour in order to please your Lordship."

The Ambassador retired, and the resolution was read over to him twice in the neighbouring Senate Chamber, and he declared that the King and the Prince would be content, as no one was elected by the Republic to fill the post to which the Prince aspired.

[*Italian.*]

April 29. Senato, Secreta. Terra, Venetian Archives.

210. That Moderante Scaramelli, who has served as Secretary to the Embassy in France and is to continue the same service in England, be allowed to keep the present given him by his Most Christian Majesty.

Ayes	161.
Noes	2.
Neutrals	2.

[*Italian.*]

April 29. Senato, Secreta. Terra, Venetian Archives.

211. To the Ambassador Foscarini, appointed to England.

Leave to Foscarini to keep the presents given him by the King of France.

Ayes	162.
Noes	0.
Neutrals	2.

[*Italian.*]

April 30. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

212. To the Ambassador in France.

In addition to our despatch of the 22nd. The gentleman of the Prince de Joinville, who came with the French Ambassador to present his master's request, left the city immediately after the

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audience in order to avoid receiving a chain worth three hundred crowns, which we sent to him two hours after the audience.

Ayes 138.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 6.

The same to England.

[*Italian.*]

April 30. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

213. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

At Leghorn the excavation of the harbour goes on, in order to enlarge it and to make it safe, but also to get rid of the seaweed which the *libeccio* brings up in vast quantities; and though it stopped short of the city, it stank and made the air unwholesome. The point where they are working just now is along the Mole by the *braccio Ferdinando*; but to avoid the great expense they employ few hands at a time; and the business will be a long one. Pray God it be not also useless. As to the expense, some put it at two, others at four and some at eight hundred thousand crowns. Although the work is intended to benefit the town there is some complaint of the Earl of Warwick as its author, as though he were trying to secure his continuance here as long as he has no other asylum. His ship is now nearly finished. It is like a galleasse but much smaller. It is to have twenty oars per bench. She is certainly meant for privateering.

Florence, 30th April, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 1. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

214. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

News that the Count of Ruffia is about to leave England to return here for further instructions about the marriage. But it seems that these negotiations are much relaxed, as the Duke gave no encouragement that if the Princess were married she would be allowed to continue in her own religion; and the King has declared that he would not give his daughter to the greatest Monarch in the world unless she were. Ruffia, it seems, has offended the French Ambassador by visiting the Spanish first; he pleads that he returned the visits in the order in which they were made.

Turin, the first of May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 1. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

215. Marc' Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador-elect to England, to the Doge and Senate.

I left Paris on Saturday week, and late last night I reached this city. To-morrow, by God's grace, I will pass the sea and will continue my journey with all speed in the hope of being able to pay my respects to your Excellencies from London by the first ordinary post, which will leave in six days.

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The English Ambassador's visit to Fontainbleau was intended to urge the Queen to discharge the debt which his Master claims against this Crown. He had also to inform the Queen about the negotiations of the Court of Ruffia for a matrimonial alliance with Savoy, to which the King would not lend an ear, as he insisted first on a declaration from the Duke of Savoy that the Princess would be left free in the exercise of her religion. As to the money the Ambassador had a promise from the Queen, but Villeroy declared that a large part would have to be deducted on account of moneys supplied to the united Provinces in accord with Queen Elizabeth. M. de Jacob promised that the Duke of Savoy would lay down his arms entirely if he were assured that he would receive no injury from Spain nor from Berne.

Calais, the first of May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 3. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

216. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador in his last audience on the 20th assured the Queen in pregnant words straight from his Master's mouth that his Majesty would explain to the Huguenots that they should remain quiet and far removed from any revolution, for not only would he not assist them but if need were he would unite his forces with those of the Queen to chastise them. The Queen was delighted at this communication; in her own and her son's name she professed a great debt to the King. She charged the Ambassador to represent this to his Majesty, on whose friendship and alliance she laid great stress. Her Majesty some days earlier had ordered M. de Vitry to go over to England, and as Sully told me in great confidence, he is, under pretext of the chace in which he is highly skilled, to keep always close to the King, and to note what dealings the Huguenots of this kingdom hold with his Majesty, and to thwart them; insinuating gently other ideas tending to quiet. When the Queen heard the English Ambassador's communication she caused de Vitry to leave at once, and while *confirming his previous orders she added instructions* to render thanks for this fresh offer.

Paris, 3rd May, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

217. Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

M. de Vitry, who arrived in London last week, went at once to join the King in the chace at Royston. So far I cannot find that he has conducted any negotiations, nor indeed that he has any commission from the Queen; *though the Spanish suspect it. He lodges apart from the Ambassador. The Ambassador is constantly receiving couriers with orders to impart to the King the negotiations of M. de Bareau in Turin and of M. de Jacob in France. The French are desirous of preventing an alliance with Spain or Savoy, and I think they will not find much difficulty.*

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The King returned on Saturday. He was met by the Princes. Yesterday he held the usual ceremony of the Garter. Besides the Duke of York, the Earl of Arundel and Viscount Rochester were admitted.* Both are very young. Arundel is the premier Earl of England and Rochester is further in the King's graces than any other subject. Two other stalls are vacant; one would go to Prince Maurice if the King were sure that it would gratify him, for on other occasions, in the reign of Elizabeth, the Prince excused himself on the plea of his obligations to the United Provinces, but as a matter of fact he, at that time, wished to avoid arousing the jealousy of the King of France. This sudden admission of Rochester to the ranks of the Garter Knights has made it even clearer to the Court that he is at the height of favour, though the fact was known to those who observed; for the translation of the Bishop of London to the Archbishopric of Canterbury took place at his request and *contrary to the wishes of the whole Council, to whom the King used some sharp words, declaring it to be his will in order to oblige one of his servants; and quite recently on Rochester's intercession, he made a present of a house in Scotland, which had been promised to the Queen for the Chancellor of that Kingdom, and this she very much resents.* (*Questa cosi subita conumeratione del Visconte di Rochester tra li Cavallieri della Garatiera ha maggiormente fatto palese a tutta la Corte in quanto colmo di favore egli si trovi, il che però non era nascosto a quelli che più penetrano perchè la collatione dell' Arcivescovato di Cantarberi nel Vescovo di Londra segui par ad instanza sua contra la volontà di tutto il Consiglio con il quale il Rè passò anco parole molte risentite, dichiarando esser la sua volontà per sodisfare ad un suo servitore; et questi ultimi giorni per intercessione dell' istesso sua Maestà ha qui trattata una donatione di una casa in Scotia, promessa alla Serenissima Regina per il Cancelliere di quel Regno, cosa che è stata malissimo sentita da lei.*)

Here an unwonted drought continues; and this has made the King change his plan of returning to Royston. He will go deer hunting in his parks along with Vitry, though the season has not commenced. The Prince will retire to his house at Richmond, the King allowing him, as he knows that the Prince does not care for such assiduity in the chase. *It was on such an occasion, during this last stay at Royston, that the Prince showed resentment at being reproved by the King; this made the King so angry that he threatened the Prince with his cane, whereupon the Prince put spurs to his horse and rode off, followed by the larger part of the company. Later on he went to the King's chamber to beg pardon at the instance of the Duke of Lennox; he was cheerfully welcomed, and the King only said "You are no sportsman."* (*Per tale occasione sua Altezza mostrò un giorno in quest'ultimo viaggio di Roiston disgusto d'essere stato ripreso dal Rè di che sua Maestà si resenti maggiormente, movendole la bachetta incontro, onde il Principe spinse il cavallo, et parti, seguitato dalla maggiore parte della compagnia, poi andato ad iscusarsene nelle stanze della Maestà sua, persuaso dal Duca di Lenos, fu raccolto allegramente et dettole solo voi non sete buon cacciatore.*)

* *See* S.P. Dom. May 1. Warrants for stuff for installation of the Duke of York, the Earl of Arundel and Viscount Rochester as Knights of the Garter.

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The King of Denmark has sent to Holland to ask for six hundred sailors, some ships and a certain number of trained soldiers, on the supposition that the United Provinces were ready to lighten their burden, but the Dutch who desire peace among the Sovreigns and who had sent Envoys expressly to urge it, excused themselves on the plea that the disturbances in Germany will not permit them. It is understood that the King of Denmark would have twenty-thousand men in the field the first day of this month. He is to attempt the recovery of certain places which belonged to his Kingdom, which have been usurped and held for long by Sweden. He also has twenty-three great ships on the sea to compel the vessels which pass through the straits to pay toll and also to prevent the King of Sweden from receiving succour by sea. That sovreign also made preparations; but as the ice lasted the whole month his armament was blocked and rendered useless.

To-morrow the Ambassador Foscarini is to enter the City. Yesterday his Majesty sent his Master of the Ceremonies with the royal carriages to meet him. I shall not fail to secure for him every honour, as in duty bound.

London, 4th May, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

218. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

I hear from an authentic source that the Duke of Savoy remains armed because he has information that the Huguenots are going to move, and as the King would be engaged in repressing them the Duke would have an opportunity to attack Geneva.

There is news from the Hague that the States are in some trouble because the King of England is pressing them for a big debt.* D'Aerssens went to the Queen and endeavoured by various arguments to saddle the debt on her. She replied that it was not for her to pay it, and that the two years from the conclusion of the truce had now expired and she did not intend to keep on foot the two regiments of French troops in the service of the States unless the States paid their debt to England.

Paris, 4th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

219. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Illustrious Foscarini left on the 23rd for England, via Calais. Praises his qualities and the splendour of his way of life. There are gone with him Signor Francesco Cocco, son of the late illustrious Signor Gerolamo, and Signor Pietro Loredan, son of the late illustrious Signor Pietro; gentlemen of the highest ability, who, after passing many months with Foscarini here, have gone to England. There is also gone with his illustrious Lordship Signor

* *See* Winwood, *Mem.* III. 274. Salisbury's instructions to Winwood.

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Vido Morosini, son of Signor Angelo; he spent his youth in the study of letters and has made marvellous progress; now he is studying courts and the world.

Paris, 4th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

220. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

On news that certain pirates had put out from Algiers to infest the coast by Lisbon two hundred thousand crowns have been sent to Don Luis Fasciardo to enable him to commission a number of galleons to protect trade. Orders have been sent to India that the *flotta* is not to come unless supported by Fasciardo's squadron.

The Persian Ambassador, who is here about the introduction of the silk trade from Persia on condition that the King of Spain makes war on the Turk, has received favourable notice; as the Spanish are much inclined to this business. *The King has sent to his Agents in Genoa, France and Marseilles* to have information as to the amount of silk that reaches those places and the dues it pays, but as to war with the Turk he declares he must first apply to the Pope in order that, as head of Christendom, he may move other Princes, and especially the Signory of Venice, to join. The Ambassador has had a gift of three thousand crowns and will leave for Rome in eight days.

Madrid, 7th May, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

221. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

A gentleman called Rodenberg has arrived from Holland, to complain of the capture of four Dutch ships by the Spanish off the coast of Guinea. He at once called on me to explain his mission. They claim damages and hope to get them, as Rodenberg brings letters from the Archduke exhorting his Majesty to consent, as the Dutch are in the right. He has orders if refused to announce that the Dutch will take to reprisals and to give notice at once in France and in England.

Madrid, 7th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 10. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

222. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Takes advantage of English ships bound for Venice to send despatch.

Zante, 10th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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May 11.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

223. MICHIEL PRIULI, Governor in Zante, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Regrets he has no funds available for the assistance of Zuane Pasqualigo; but has written to Patras to Sig. Edward Colston, an English merchant of great importance, who has a house in Zante, begging him to write to others to do all they can for Pasqualigo's liberation.

Zante, 11th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 12.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

224. MICHIEL PRIULI, Governor in Zante, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Reports again that he has written to Edward Colston, English Vice-Consul in Patras.

Zante, 12th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

225. Letter to the ENGLISH VICE-CONSUL in Patras.

Explaining the case of Zuane Pasqualigo and other slaves, liberated but re-arrested. Begs the Consul to use his authority to secure their freedom; if he does so his action will be praised to the King of England.

Zante, 9th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 12.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

226. MARC' ANTONIO CORRER and ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassadors in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Wednesday, the 4th of May, Sir Lewis Lewkenor, Master of the Ceremonies, on the King's orders came to meet me, Foscarini, with three royal coaches, but about a day's journey out of London he was seized with a grave and sudden sickness, which still keeps him in bed and in peril of his life; he sent a gentleman of his suite to act for him. Five miles out of London I was met by Vincenzo Correr and Pietro Loredan, son and nephew of the Ambassador, along with other English and Italian gentlemen on horseback. I was captivated no less by their noble and exquisite manners than by the honour; for sure Courts are a useful school for youths. Soon after I met his Illustrious Lordship with all the Italian nation and many other gentlemen, in upwards of twenty coaches, among them two belonging to the French Ambassador, conveying his nephews, secretary and other gentlemen. This was an unwonted honour, nor did he fail in many other offices, being followed the next morning by the Spanish Ambassador. The same day, while Sir Henry Wotton, late Ambassador to your Serenity, was visiting me in the King's name, the Lord Chamberlain sent to say that as his Majesty desired to see us, if it were convenient audience would be granted on Sunday, and an hour after dinner Viscount Cranborne would come to fetch us, in the Royal coaches, to Greenwich. We returned thanks for the

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double honour of granting us audience so soon and of sending so important a personage and so high in his Majesty's favour, but remarked that I, Foscarini, having arrived so recently would not be able to appear in a suitable manner. Wotton said that the rapidity of this audience was intended solely for our convenience and not to cause us any difficulty; he insisted that it should be deferred till Sunday week and ventured to explain this to the Lord Chamberlain. Thanks to the diligence of the Ambassador Correr I have received all honour due to your Serenity's Representative, and I trust that an Embassy begun in such style cannot fail to procede happily. Sir Henry Wotton in the course of our conversation showed himself very well disposed towards your Serenity though he displayed some feeling that he had not received a like present to M. de Fresnes, declaring that it was possible to have shown to his nephew the same honour which was shown to the son of M. de Fresnes, as both had dealt with the same affairs. Wotton seemed anxious that this should reach your Serenity's ears, and especially charged me, Correr, with this. I replied that on this matter I could speak with authority, as I was a member of the Cabinet and among those who voted for the motion regarding the son of M. de Fresnes. I explained the binding nature of our laws and the Senate's unwillingness to admit innovations, and I pointed out the difference between a son and a nephew. I assured him that when I left Venice your Serenity and each of your Excellencies entertained a singular regard for his Lordship, while he displayed great zeal in uniting the two Powers in the closest bonds; I hoped he would not allow himself to be disturbed by the memory of an event which had happened out of pure necessity of the constitution. He, however, replied that he was convinced that resentment in the Cabinet was the cause. I, Foscarini, did not omit other arguments, and we both were at pains to pacify this personage as one who is beloved by the King and who alone is instructed in the affairs of your Serenity and can therefore serve at all times as an instrument to further your interests, and in particular we communicated the instructions sent to me, Correr, to rely fully on his remarkable qualities and ability.

London, 12th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 12. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

227. Marc' Antonio Correr and Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassadors in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After many consultations on the lack of money, and after various memorandums and offers presented by the merchants, the Lords of the Council finally resolved to create a new order of two hundred Knights, to be called Baronets. Each of them will be bound to pay for the space of three years at the rate of four ducats a day from year to year, prepaid, under the name of hire of thirty foot on service in Ireland, and for the plantation of the Province of Ulster; this will bring in about eight hundred and seventy thousand ducats. The title will descend to the eldest son, and the Baronets will have precedence over all other Knights except those of the Garter, and

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some who are knighted in the army in recognition of some noble action. They must prove nobility for three generations, and have an income of four thousand ducats a year, or two thirds of that sum and expectation of inheriting the other third on the extinction of one life, as your Excellencies will more fully understand from the enclosed statutes.

This last condition causes many to withdraw so as not to be obliged to declare their means, which might increase their burdens in paying the subsidies; on the other hand the Lords of the Council are of opinion that this is an excellent way to increase the revenue from the subsidy. As yet they have about forty down on the list. These are persons who have been begged to join rather than spontaneous offerers. It is expected that they will have to use pressure if they wish to fill up the number.

It has already been resolved to suppress all the tables which the King kept at Court for certain gentlemen and officers, and they hope thereby to save eighty-eight thousand ducats a year. There will remain the expenses of the royal kitchen, which include the compensation in money, to the amount of 215 thousand ducats, to be given to those who had board. This arrangement will not be of any relief to the districts held to purveyance for the royal household, as part had already compounded and part is pledged to supply a specified quantity of stuff. The King in order to avoid the ceremony and expense of sending the Duke of York to Windsor to take possession of his Garter—the order being founded at Windsor—has determined to move there next week and to pass Whitsuntide there. This determination gives great satisfaction to the other new Knights, Arundel and Rochester, who will thus save many thousand crowns over horses and liveries.

Lady Arabella ought to have left for Durham by this time, as the last concession of a month's delay, made to her at the instance of the Chancellor of Scotland, has now expired. All the same she is said to be in a state of very poor health and with a mind most impatient of this trouble, and it would not be surprising if her departure were put off for a few days more.

The Palatine of Neuburg writes that he will be in this Kingdom next June. From other sources we hear that the Duke de Bouillon is not pleased that the negotiations for a match between the Princess of England and the Elector Palatine should pass out of his hands. It is not certain, however, that Neuburg will broach the subject. If the King really settles on the Count Palatine, who is quite young, the business would be delayed for many months and perhaps years.

In Denmark preparations for war proceed; nor does it seem that the letters from his Majesty and the Deputies of the United Provinces have done any good.* They have begun to draw part of the damages for the plunder of the "Soderina" and to remit it to Venice.

London, 12th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Winwood, *Mem.* III., 272. James had already urged Denmark to come to terms. His agent was Dr. Jonas Charisius.

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Enclosed in preceding despatch.

228. The order and method of the new dignity and nobility to be created between Barons and Knights.

[*Italian.*]

May 14.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

229. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Works at Leghorn harbour are, it seems, not going to succeed.

Florence, 14th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 15.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

230. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

On Tuesday Count de Ruffia came back from England, full of honours; but as to his mission there seems to be no hope of further progress.

Turin, 15th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 17.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

231. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

M. de Vitry writes from England on the 4th that he finds in the King an intention to abide by all that his Ambassador promised; and so the Queen, strengthened on all sides, is quite satisfied, while those of the religion keep very quiet.

Paris, 17th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

232. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Wednesday the 11th, the King returned to Paris, and the same day, a little later, the Queen. The day following the English Ambassador went to the Queen and congratulated her on her return. He then petitioned for the prohibition of a book written by Cocheo, Confessor to the Grand Duchess, in reply to the book published by the King of England. In favour of the Pope Cocheo advances doctrines prejudicial to the Sovreignty of Princes. The Queen promised to inform herself, and declared she was always ready to gratify the King of England. The matter was referred to the Chancellor, who ordered the prohibition of the book. In order to avoid the outcry that was raised by the prohibition of Cardinal Bellarmin's book, and also to show some regard to the Grand Duchess who had recommended it, the prohibition will be made not by decree of Parliament but by order of the Procurator General, which though not so public will have the same effect. The Ambassador pressed for arrest of the author, but was quieted. The Nuncio, though taking no overt steps, was nevertheless opposed. The members of the Parliament, who do not sleep, have instantly caused a book, against the teaching of this man, to be written; the

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book appeared under a feigned name and proves, on the confession of the Popes themselves, that they have no jurisdiction over this kingdom. The other day Gontier (*Contieri*), the Jesuit, in the course of a sermon broke into scandalous words against the Huguenots; and to humiliate them he said they were so few they would not furnish forth a collation. The first President was informed, and he reproved the preacher with sharp words. A man has been imprisoned for saying he felt tempted to kill the King and Queen. During his examination he confessed the truth, and said that a few days before one dressed as a monk had begged him to lend some money; he refused; then the monk implored him to advance some upon a ring he wore; he agreed, put the ring on his finger and from that day was tempted. It is thought to be madness.

On the 4th M. de Mole, appointed Ambassador in Constantinople, took his leave. He will pass through Venice.

Paris, 18th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 21. Collegio Secreta. Esposizioni, Principi. Venetian Archives.

233. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

Most Serene Prince, Your Illustrious and Excellent Lordships, I have more than once, both in my own person and by means of my Secretary, made petition in favour of that English merchant from whom the rabbit skins were taken. Having now heard what your Serenity was pleased to communicate to me yesterday through the Secretary, I determined to come here this morning to say what is necessary on the matter, so as to avoid giving you any further trouble in this business.

First I must beg pardon for the disturbance I am causing you; then I must add that if the business follows the course of the laws of this Republic, to which I desire to conform myself, it will take a long time and be very costly and disastrous to the merchant; I therefore beg that on the payment of the customs dues the Englishman may be released from this trouble and his goods returned to him; I assure you I would take your consent for the highest favour and will always remain grateful. I am aware that I am asking this favour without sufficient merit, but favours are all the greater for being conferred on the undeserving.

The Doge replied that in order to gratify the Ambassador the Government had enquired what could be done in the case of the Englishman. Although he had been absolved by the Sanitary Board there was another office called the Board of Export (*Magistrato dell' Insida*), which claimed jurisdiction in matters of contraband, in which it seems that the Englishman has done wrong; and that gave us occasion to send you yesterday, through your Secretary, the information you have received. Now, however, that your Lordship makes this new petition, that on the payment of the dues his goods should be restored to him, these gentlemen will not fail to give it the necessary attention, and to do all that can conveniently be done to satisfy your Lordship, whose excellent qualities we know in spite of your assertion that you have no merits. On this matter we can go no further.

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The Ambassador replied: Most Serene Prince, no more can I go further; and you may be assured that I was moved by pity, as it was a question of the ruin of this poor merchant if he had to lose his goods, no less for the loss of the merchandize than for the loss of credit with his correspondents. I know that it has been affirmed that these rabbits' skins are worth from five to six thousand ducats; but I have it from the Englishman himself that they do not reach one thousand five hundred.

[*Italian.*]

May 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

234. Antonio Foscarini and Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassadors in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Last Sunday week on the orders of the King the Viscount Cranborne, son of the Earl of Salisbury, Thomas Howard, son of the Great Chamberlain, General Cecil, Sir Henry Wotton and various other gentlemen of quality visited this house. We entered the royal carriages, which took us down to the river Thames, where we found the royal barges, which took us to Greenwich, five miles off, where the King lay with a numerous Court, crowded with the greatest personages in the kingdom. After the Guard Chamber and the Presence Chamber we found the King's Chamber, in which he was sitting under a *baldacchino*, with the Princess of the royal house, surrounded by all the great lords—the rest of the Chamber being filled with other nobility. On our appearance the King rose and advanced three or four paces to the edge of the daïs. We made humble obeisance to his Majesty and at the third reverence I, Correr, assured him that nothing gave your Serenity greater pleasure than to show signs of affection and regard for his Majesty; that the Republic, in its desire never to leave this post a moment vacant, had appointed the illustrious Chevalier Foscarini as my successor.

The King seemed pleased at the speech, to which the Princes, Lord Salisbury and the others paid close attention. The King replied with his wonted kindness, then I, Foscarini, discharged the mission entrusted me by your Excellencies, using phrases suited to reply to his Majesty, who withdrew towards his chair, which gave us room to address the Prince of Wales.

There was then read by a person kneeling, a noble patent granted to the Illustrious Correr by his Majesty, permitting him to augment his arms by one of the essential charges on the shield of this kingdom; then the King rose and with great abundance of affection he knighted Correr and presented him with his own sword, which he wore at his side, an honour all the greater in that it is unusual at this Court. We then caused all our suites to kiss the King's hand; and with that we took our leaves. We must not omit to report that we have had formal confirmation of the satisfaction displayed by the King.

We also sought audience of the Queen, and when the date was fixed she sent her barges for us and received us at Greenwich surrounded by a number of ladies. We made our compliments and she caused us to be seated and discoursed with us for three-quarters

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of an hour. We returned to London in the same barges and went to wait on the Prince at his Palace; I, Foscarini, presented your Serenity's letters, as I had done to the King and the Queen. The same took place at the Duke of York's, and we seemed to perceive, and were afterwards told, that he would have been glad to receive letters from your Serenity. This son is greatly beloved by the King and Queen and promises, as does the Prince of Wales, to turn out excellently. The same day we saw the Lords of the Council and we did not fail to attest the high esteem in which your Serenity held this Government, and the affection you felt for all the nations under his Majesty's rule, with which it seems that the Venetians have a special conformity of nature and temperament. I, Correr, thanked them for the readiness to further your Serenity's interests, which I had ever found in them, and declared that for myself I took my departure quite satisfied. I, Foscarini, declared myself ready to obey your Serenity's orders on all occasions to study the interests of his Majesty, which are identical with those of the Republic. Lord Salisbury, after saying a few words in English to the other Lords, replied very fully to each of us. He showed great regard for the Republic, and dwelt on the reasons why the two States ought to maintain friendly relations. He wound up by saying that if questions about commerce sometimes arose, this could not change the good understanding. Saturday next I, Correr, am to take leave of the Queen; she would not allow me to at the first audience, and in the early part of next week I return to the feet of your Serenity.

London, 25th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

235. Antonio Foscarini and Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassadors in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After concluding the audiences we have reported we went to visit the Earl of Salisbury, with whom we had had long conversations the two preceding days, once in the Council and once at a chance meeting in the Royal Gardens. We now said that in obedience to special instructions from your Serenity we desired to give him this proof of the singular esteem in which he was held. Lord Salisbury expressed his satisfaction and entered on an intimate conversation about the government of the Republic. He then discussed the question of Cleves and the accord between the Duke of Saxony and the Margrave of Brandenburg, declaring that he had no fear of war. Neuburg was coming soon to England about this accord, and about his claim to administer the Palatinate; but he is not supported enough to enable him to upset the peace. He then discussed the position of the Emperor, whom Mathias holds in his power, and to whom belongs now a mere shadow of respect. Spain gives her whole support to the King of Hungary, and Salisbury approved of this as it meant the total exclusion of Leopold. The affairs of the King of Denmark are a cause of anxiety here. That Sovreign has joined his army and all representations have proved fruitless, so that war may be looked for soon; this he attributed to the vigour and vivacity of that monarch. The King

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of Poland is making himself master of Muscovy, and thanks to his claims on Sweden he may possibly draw to the side of Denmark. He asked for news from France and reviewed the general state of that kingdom, showing that he feared that the peace might be broken. He desired information about the Prince de Joinville's request. When we said we had no recent information on the point, he said it had been recently handled; and he asked our view as to the issue. He wanted to know whether a definite reply was to be expected, or whether it was to be gathered from the difficulties and delays, though he considered that the difficulties had been modified by the death of Henry IV. We assured him of your Serenity's good will towards the Prince; we dwelt on the difficulties which Republics more than absolute governments experience in coming to a resolution, and we endeavoured to persuade him that every deliberation would be directed to satisfying the King of Great Britain. The Earl replied that the King was much interested on behalf of the Prince. He then drew a letter from his pocket and showed that he was informed on the subject of the recent votes, and named several senators who had handled the business and asked for information about them.

At this point Suriano, my secretary, approached me, Correr, and told me that one of the Clerks of the Council had informed him that he had orders to treat with me for the enlargement, for a few weeks, of the prisoners who were sureties for the plundered cargo of the ship "Soderina"; they would deposit a bail that they would return to prison. The Lords of the Council were prepared to grant them leave in the certainty that I would not withhold my assent, in order to release them from the rigorous orders which had been applied to extract the three thousand ducats about which I have already written. I deemed it necessary to touch on the matter to Lord Salisbury, so I said I would never refuse anything which was desired by these gentlemen, but it seemed to me strange that, after so long a resistance, such expenses and difficulties, they should talk of bail that they would return to prison; if a month were not enough I would grant a year, if he would give sureties for the payment of the debt. Lord Salisbury was not satisfied; he said he had done so much in this case that he did not expect to be called on to pledge his word over a question of a little time. As he showed some annoyance, a thing that frequently happens in this matter, wherein he desires to preserve the affection of all these merchants, we sought to give him complete satisfaction by offering three months, the utmost he wished for. No steps have been taken as yet, owing to some difference as to the nature of the bail they are to offer. Meantime his Excellency has sent orders to recover from the hands of another debtor of these prisoners about 1,500 ducats, though it will not be so easy to get them owing to certain highly complicated counter-claims between them. We will not fail to do what we can for the interested parties, though it is extremely difficult owing to the almost violence done to the Council by the outcries of these people.

Six ships are on the point of sailing for Virginia with three hundred soldiers and one hundred and fourteen kine for breeding

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and as many pigs. Sir Thomas Gates (*Getz*) goes out with them as lieutenant to Lord de la Warr. He carries sealed orders to de la Warr; he is to open them if de la Warr dies. They are omitting nothing to further that Colony, incited by the hopes they have recently conceived, as the soil is found to be very well adapted for vines and grain, more so than they thought, now that they have penetrated further inland.

Lady Arabella has obtained leave through the Countess of Shrewsbury, her aunt, to stay where she is for another twenty days, and for Lady Shrewsbury to visit her, which she was not allowed to do in the past.

London, 25 May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

236. Antonio Foscarini and Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassadors in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Sunday we were to go to Kew, a place eight miles away on the road to Windsor, in order to have audience of the Princess; Murray, acting for the Master of the Ceremonies who is in bed, said something to us about an invitation, hinting that the King would be glad if we would be present privately at the festival for the creation of the Duke of York, the King's son, the Earl of Arundel and Viscount Rochester as Knights of the Garter. The same hints were given us several times on different days, and it seemed to us that we ought to accept the favour. Accordingly we first visited the Princess, who received us, made us be seated, and engaged us in gracious discourse; then we went on to Hampton Court, which we found adorned with a large part of the royal tapestries of silk and gold, and some gentlemen of the Court who did the honours. The next day we sent on our gentlemen and our train towards Windsor and we followed in a single carriage. We were met by Murray, who took us to see the ceremony from the King's closet. Soon after came Lord Wotton and his wife as by chance to keep us company, and almost at the same moment Sir Henry Wotton, his brother, late Ambassador to your Serenity, especially appointed by the King to attend us, as he did. His Majesty appeared two hours before mid-day. There preceded him a band of Almoners, clad in crimson and purple cloaks down to their feet, as is the custom of the Order; then came twelve heralds in velvet embroidered with the royal arms; lastly all the Knights of the Order and some officers of the Crown, in full dress. A little in front of the King came the Prince, on whose left walked the Lord High Admiral, both in the same robes as were all the other Knights and the King himself. His Majesty took his seat on a lofty throne approached by ten steps and placed under a rich *baldacchino*; he then signed first to the Prince, and then to the other Knights to be seated, which they were, in the stalls of the Choir of the Royal Chapel all alike. The altar was richly adorned with cloth of gold, with a cross and some fine effigies of our Saviour and the Saints. The Prince then first of all bore to the

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altar the standard of France and Navarre, then the sword of the late King and his helmet circled with the royal crown; all this because Henry IV. King of France was a Knight of the Garter. The Prince performed this duty with most perfect grace, showing in his countenance his sorrow and pain at the loss of so great a King. The same was done with the insignia, sword, and helmet of the late Duke of Wirtemberg, and of two other Knights who had died since the last investitures. Then appeared the Duke of York attended by many nobles and a great number of instruments of all kinds, which had also served at the king's entry into the Chapel. The oath was administered to him, he was robed and his insignia raised to a lofty position; he then took his seat below all the other Knights as the last enrolled. The same ceremony was observed with the Earl of Arundel and Viscount Rochester, but with less sumptuousness, though they too appeared with a rich and numerous following. That done the clergy, robed in rich copes and purple cottas began to chaunt certain prayers and hymns in English, then the Epistle, the Gospel, and the Creed; then other prayers and psalms to a great music of organs and wind instruments, and a multitude of voices that made a harmony worthy the ears of a mighty monarch. Then his Majesty departed, preceded by a vast number of nobles and great Lords and all those who had attended him at his entry into the chapel. When he was come into the Great Hall he took his seat under a lofty *baldacchino* and was served right sumptuously. He did eat alone waited on by many officers of the Crown and all those of the Royal Household. All the Knights eat together at a great table on the King's right on the floor of the Hall. On the other side were sideboards loaded with silver gilt. The Prince sat in the highest place among the Knights and the Duke of York in the lowest. The banquet was sumptuous and lasted from five to six hours. Lord Wotton, who is Majordomo Major, assured us the cost to the King of that day's banquet was twenty four thousand crowns of gold. There were not wanting concerts of voices or instruments, nor aught else that one could look for at the sumptuous board of the greatest Sovreign. We were entertained along with all the gentlemen in our company in the rooms of the Great Chamberlain, waited on by the royal servants, and though we were incogniti we could not have been more highly honoured had we been in our robes as Ambassadors of your Excellencies. The King sent to say that if we desired it he would be glad to see us, but knowing that these were merely words of courtesy and that at a moment of such ceremony it would be an abuse of his favours, as the banquet lasted on into the night, we presented our thanks for the honours shown us, and accompanied by Wotton and Murray to our carriages we set out on our return. We must not conceal from your Serenity that these favours were known and highly esteemed here, and that those Ambassadors of some great Sovreigns have shown that they appreciated their value and may have reported thereon. I, Foscarini, have received the despatches of the 29th of last month. I thank you for your benignity in allowing me to keep the plate that was given me in France in the King's name, which

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along with my poor substance and my very life I am prepared to spend in the service of your Serenity.

London, 25 May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 26. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

237. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Cannot raise the two thousand dollars required for the liberation of Zuane Pasqualigo. Thought of authorizing the English Consul to pay, but would in that case himself remain the debitor.

Zante, 26th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 26. Collegio, Secreta, Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

238. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

My desire to serve you, Most Serene Prince and Illustrious and Excellent Lords, leads me to embrace every opportunity of presenting myself before you as I do this morning, to communicate some news that has come to my knowledge, and which I consider worthy of your notice. I have received this week various packets of letters from our Northern Counties wherein they talk of a rupture between the crowns of Denmark and Sweden, which will lead to a bloody and considerable war. Though the sound of these arms will be far away from here, I know that the news will be a surprise and will claim attention in these times of peace. The King of Denmark has by herald declared war on the King of Sweden, on the grounds which appear in this paper which I have translated as best I could into Italian and brought here for your Serenity. I daresay that your Serenity has already received this news, but I thought it my duty to convey it to you.

The Ambassador then presented the paper which was as follows:—

Complains that the treaty of Stettin is not being observed, and Norway is being treated as a part of the Swedish realm; this can only mean that friendly relations are broken off. We and our royal Council have resolved on war; and have sent a herald on purpose to declare it, so that we may be justified before God, the Emperor and all other Monarchs, Princes, Electors, Signories and Republics.

Given at Copenhagen, 4th April.

The Ambassador then proceeded to communicate what he had received about Savoy in a recent despatch from England, though he has no doubt but that the news is already known. The Ambassador of Savoy at the English Court (Ruffia) has dealt with two subjects; the first to justify the Duke for arming on the grounds of the preservation of his State, the second was to treat for an alliance and, in particular, to propose two marriages, one of the Prince of Piedmont to the Princess of England, the other of a daughter of Savoy to the Prince of Wales. On the first head his Majesty did not fail to recommend peace. As to the Prince he was still young and of a lively spirit, and it seems desirable that he should be

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allowed to display his own bent in this matter; as to the Princess there was a point of the highest moment that would have to be conceded, that was she must be allowed the exercise of her own religion. And so the Ambassador in face of these important considerations does not see how the Princess can cross the mountains nor the Princess of Savoy the sea. His Majesty courted and honoured the Ambassador, who went away satisfied.

The Doge replied that although they already had notice of the disagreement between Denmark and Sweden they had hoped that an accord might be reached, and the open rupture avoided; such a rupture would be all the less welcome as it might involve his Majesty, whom the Republic so dearly loved; it is still to be hoped that he will find some way to settle the dispute.

Gives thanks for the news about the negotiations of Savoy at the English Court. Glad to see that the Duke of Savoy has accepted his Majesty's prudent exhortations to peace and has begun to disarm. As to the marriages the Doge praises the King's forethought in grasping all the considerations of the case, especially as the Prince is young and of a lively disposition. Sends thanks to his Majesty for these communications by the Ambassador. The Ambassador said that the King would certainly endeavour to preserve the peace between Denmark and Sweden. The ordinary despatch from England brings news that the Ambassador Correr will shortly leave to return home and the English Ambassador pays a tribute to his qualities; Correr will carry away with him the entire love of his Majesty and of all the Court. The Doge said he rejoiced to hear it and he hoped Foscarini would do the same. The Ambassador returns thanks for having been allowed to enter the *Maggior Consiglio*. He had taken with him an English Baron who had been four years in Italy but not in Venice; both were much struck at the sight of the Republic all assembled. The Baron had also seen the armoury of the Ten and the arsenal.

[*Italian.*]

May 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

239. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambasador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

Persons arrived from Poland tell me that the King of Poland is annoyed at this attempt to expel the Prince of Moldavia in favour of the Prince Radolo who is living in the house of the English Ambassador here, and has written to the King of England to beg him not to encourage such schemes through his Ambassador in Constantinople.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 28th May, 1611.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

May 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

240. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

Reports that a Friar of the Minorites has become a Lutheran. He preaches on Sundays and Feastdays in the house of the English Ambassador. At first I am positively assured that he preached

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against the Blessed Virgin and the Sacrifice of the Mass; but as one abyss leads to another, and perhaps to punish him, the Blessed God disposed him to a life of such abominable looseness that his money ran out, though he had good store of it, collected among the English merchants, and he made up his mind to betray a gentleman of the English Ambassador's household, denouncing him to the Turks as a spy in the pay of Spain. He bargained with the Subasi of Pera that the half of the money found on the young man, which might be about three hundred sequins, should be his. The friar also arranged with the Subasi—to whom the youth was unknown—that under cloak of friendship he would take him to walk in a certain quarter and would make a sign with his handkerchief so that he might easily be seized. The plan was put in execution. The Ambassador was deeply enraged, and arrested the friar and imprisoned him in his house, while through the Capudan Pasha he obtained the liberation of the youth. When I heard this I thought it well to send my Secretary at once to the Ambassador to point out the perverse nature of this man and to remark that the Ambassador would have done well at the first to have believed me and to have handed him over to me, though there was still time, and I begged him to do so now. My Secretary performed his task very well and the Ambassador said he intended to send the friar to me to be put in a galley for life. The next evening he did send the friar along with the minutes of the trial and sentence. I am implored by the Fathers here to remove from their midst this shameful person. I have already put him on board in chains and sent him to the Governor General of Candia for good custody. And as ills never come singly and evil example is catching, the Dominican friar who serves your Serenity here took to dissolute ways, and when the Vicar of S. Peter's wished, for his good, to change his convent, he flew into a rage and became a Turk along with a little slave of his, to the scandal and grief of these other poor clerics. It would be well that his Holiness should tell the Superiors of the Orders to send here only friars of proved virtue.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 28th May, 1611.

[*Italian*; *deciphered.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

241. Sentence pronounced by Sir Thomas Glover, Ambassador in ordinary of the King of Great Britain, against Vincenzo Marini of Madaloni, in the Diocese of Caserta, Kingdom of Naples, about thirty-eight years old, originally priest in the order of Conventual Minorites of S. Francis. He had already been tried by his Superiors for having had dealings with Turkish women and other crimes. He was sent back to his monastery with letters from the Ambassador. When he found that they intended to punish him, he left the monastery, and threw himself at the Ambassador's feet, begging to be received and made his preacher, declaring that he had preached against Pope and Papists. The Ambassador suspected his motives and warned him to be careful what he was about, but as he insisted he was accepted and named preacher to the Embassy. A subscription was raised for him among the merchants; this was handed to him at once; but the same evening he played at cards with the suite, standing up the whole night.

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The Ambassador reproved him and forbade him to play cards. He promised to obey, but continued in secret. He took to drink; and his religious convictions were suspect. A watch was set on him, and to some Papists he declared that if the Pope would send him a pardon he would return to the Church. The Papists told him to make a confession of errors in writing; he promised to do so, but would not write it with his own hand; he only signed it in a feigned hand. Moreover he pillaged the larder, and when the cook refused to cook the meat he took it to the house of a harlot. Exhortations were of no avail. His money ran out. He then bethought him to entice a young Italian, born of a Spanish father, who had arrived under the English flag, and to make him pass for a spy. He arranged the treachery with the Subasi and his men and the poor youth was seized. The Ambassador recovered him.

The Subasi had at first suspected the friar and asked him to name the business upon which the spy had come; the friar said it was about the son of the Viceroy of Sicily.* The Subasi said that was nonsense; the friar insisted that the youth was a great necromancer, but that he (the friar) could counteract the spirits. It was decided that the friar was to entice the youth to the tomb of Castun Pasha and was to wipe his face with a handkerchief the Subasi gave him; at that sign they were to seize the youth, as the spirits would be powerless. The friar also told the Subasi that the English Embassy was full of slaves and renegade refugees and that when this business was done he would help to capture them; that he would place in the Subasi's hands other English and foreign spies lodged in the Embassy. For all these deeds the friar was put in irons and an enquiry opened as to his conduct. It was found that on a certain night he had gone out of the house with other renegade Neapolitans, his compatriots, and had taken a caique and attacked a Jew's house in Bisitas and stolen twelve thousand sequins. He also made a wax image wanting an arm and tied a piece of cloth round its brow for no other purpose than to confirm a woman of his in Chios to wait till he married her.

In view of all this the friar deserved not one but a thousand deaths. He was ordered to be tried for the treachery to the youth. He confessed that he had accused him of being a spy, as he hated the youth for being a Spaniard. The household of the Embassy and the English merchants were summoned and before them all the friar confirmed his confession. They unanimously agreed that there was no need for a further examination but condemned him as traitor, betrayer and transgressor of the Evangelical religion. They then came to sentence. To be strangled as a traitor to the Embassy Palace and being hung up with an iron at his foot as is usual with such criminals; but wishing to use clemency, he was condemned to the galley, as an oar, in the bread of bitterness, for the rest of his life; and for this purpose he is to be sent to the house of the Ambassador of the Venetian Republic, who will send him to Candia; and should there be any difficulty about this in passing the Castles he is to be strangled either in the Embassy or on board ship.

* Vigliena.

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Mitigation of the sentence reserved for the King of Great Britain and the Ambassador.

Tho. Glover,
English Orator.

In the Vineyards of Pera, 1st December, o.s., 1610.

Read in the Palace of Thomas Glover, English orator, in the presence of William Percy, Edmund Nidem, Sampson Niport, Roger Bedrick (*Betrici*) and almost all the English merchants. Copy of original in the Ambassador's chancery.

Hieronymus Meulus,
Secretary.

[*Italian and Latin.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

242. Copy of the Memorandum presented by Vincenzo Marini of Madaloni to the Ambassador on the 11th December, 1610, o.s., present all the Merchants and the Prince Stephan of Moldavia.

A full confession of the charges in Marini's own hand.

[*Italian.*]

May 29. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

243. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

His Highness is talking of sending the Count di Ruffia again to England; but one cannot be sure of this.

Turin, 29th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

244. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador had an interview with the Queen on the subject of the Prince de Joinville taking service with the Republic. He was also visited by M. de la Fonte, just returned from Venice, who told him that the Prince and all the Royal family were much hurt that the Prince's offer had not been accepted. The Ambassador also saw Joinville and explained that the Republic would gladly accept his services when occasion offered, to prove their regard for the recommendations of the Queen and of the King of Great Britain.

Paris, 30th May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

May 31. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

245. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The same day that I had audience of the Queen the Nuncio was received before me and so was M. de Jacob. The Nuncio spoke about the book written by the Grand Duchess' Confessor in order to insure that it should not be prohibited by Act of Parliament, which was promised him.

Paris, 31st May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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May 31.
Senato, Secreta. Dispatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

246. Letter from EDWARD COLSTON to MICHIEL PRIULI, Governor of Zante.

Announces that he has sent an agent to Lepanto to treat for the liberation of Zuane Pasqualigo and other Christians, as he could not go in person. This agent is quite capable. Is at the Governor's disposal if he chooses to give orders.

Da Retraso, the last day of May, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 4.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

247. GIACOMO VENDRAMIN, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the DOGE and SENATE.

From Leghorn they are going to send a vessel to bring the English who are to settle there. The works on the Port progress, but not actively. In September they are to man the Earl of Warwick's new ship.

Florence, 4th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 6.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

248. PIERO PRIULI, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The English Ambassador* who is coming here as Lieger, has sent on his Majordomo, who announces that the Ambassador is four days off, with his wife and a large train of servants.

Madrid, 6th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 9.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

249. ANTONIO FOSCARINI and MARC' ANTONIO CORRER, Venetian Ambassadors in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On receipt of your Senenity's despatches of the 30th April and 7th May we sought audience, which was at once granted.

Immediately on our arrival at Greenwich we were introduced into a chamber close to the Gallery and his Majesty sent to greet us, and to say that he desired us to enjoy the fruits of his toil and had ordered a deer which he had slain that morning to be sent to our house. We were at once introduced into the presence and I, Correr, said that I held a commission to reassume for a moment the quality of Ambassador resident and to say that as regards the Prince de Joinville your Serenity entertained so high a regard for him, for his brother and his whole house that his offer to enter your service was most acceptable and would be borne in mind when occasion called for it. I did not fail to assure the King that no Prince in the world had greater weight with your Serenity than the King of Great Britain, and to thank him for having always made his requests in a way which showed as much consideration for the Republic as for his kinsman. The King replied, with a pleasant countenance, that he never wished for anything to be preferred to

* Sir John Digby. *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. 8 Ap. 1611.

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your Serenity's good service; that he loved the Prince de Joinville, who was his near relation, and desired to see him in the pay of the Republic, as he knew she would be well served; he launched out in your praises, and ended by saying that he desired information on the mind of the Senate so that he might reply to the insistence of the Prince. I, Foscarini, replied that the Prince had got what he asked for; his request contained merely an offer of services if occasion arose, and your Excellencies' answer was that they accepted the offer gladly should occasion arise. His Majesty appeared satisfied and told us to repeat our remarks to the Lord Treasurer, so that he might draw up a reply to the Prince.

Availing myself of the King's good disposition I, Correr, begged his Majesty to overlook the disobedience of these priests and to grant me the favour of being allowed to take away with me some of those who are in prison, as had been granted on other occasions to the Ambassadors of France and Spain, though I preferred this request only so far as it did not offend either the pleasure or the service of the King. His Majesty replied kindly that he had no wish to be cruel to the priests, but that they abused his clemency by returning immediately to this kingdom, and that is an insult. He spoke much of his annoyance and of the clemency he displays. Parliament had been forced by their conduct to pass new laws against them, and after that he has refused to set any of them at liberty. I replied that I put myself entirely in his Majesty's hands; all the same clemency was a virtue peculiar to great Kings. His Majesty gave me leave to take two out of those I had named. These persons were all the more delighted as I had not told them I was going to prefer this request.

We visited Lord Salisbury the same evening and spoke about the affair of the Prince de Joinville. His Excellency made enquiries as to how he was to guide himself in his reply to the Prince's letters. To this we replied that the Prince had obtained what he asked for; his offer was in general terms, namely to serve your Excellencies should occasion present itself, while the answer was also in general terms, that when occasion arose his services would be accepted. As Lord Salisbury insisted we took the steps of causing the passage in the Prince's letter to be read; Lord Salisbury agreed that the case was so.

I, Correr, have received the usual present from his Majesty, fourteen great goblets of silver gilt, and from the Queen a diamond; also gifts for my wife and son; really most graciously given. To-day by God's grace I shall set out.

London, 9th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

250. Antonio Foscarini and Marc' Antonio Correr, Venetian Ambassadors in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After a very long drought, the like of which has never been known before in this Kingdom, which threatened a famine and a notable rise in the price of bread, it has pleased God to send a

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little rain; it was welcomed, but as the season is far advanced the benefit to the country is but slight. The King who had stopped his Progress and dismissed M. de Vitry, as he thought that in such a burnt up land he could not journey with all the Court, save to the great damage of his subjects, has now changed his mind and will set out towards Salisbury. Both he and the Queen are at Greenwich. This week the King has been discussing the way to dissuade the King of Denmark from his design to invade Sweden and to declare open war on its King. The envoys of the King of Denmark are in the Queen's Court along with one of his Gentlemen-of-the-Chamber, who brings a letter, written by the King's own hand in German, and full of the most affectionate expressions. He says first of all that he is with the army, ready for the march, and as he is going in person he sends the Queen his Band for which he will have no use at the wars; then he enlarges on the successes he hopes for by land and sea, and expresses himself with the greatest tenderness towards his sister. He adds that he sends her some jewels to keep for his sake, among them one of splendid diamonds forming a C. and a 4, C. for the first letter of his name, and a 4 because he is the fourth of that name. The day before yesterday the Queen replied in Italian, by her own hand, wishing him all success, declaring she desired nothing more than to see the increase of his glory and his State, as is the case; for between them is such perfect love and so sincere a correspondence that its like has never been seen. The King has letters from Sweden, written from Stockholm, stating that when the King of Sweden heard of the Danish preparations he broke out in violent language, and declared that but for his respect for the King of England he would not have awaited the war in his own country, but would have invaded Denmark with all his might. In Sweden they are arming for the defence.

An hour ago came news that the Ambassador of Morocco had reached this kingdom. He has a small suite, nor do I know his mission. Within two or three days he will be in Court; I shall use due diligence to find out everything. An express has arrived from France; he brings letters for the Ambassador and M. de Vitry, whom, he found, has departed.

For the better service of your Excellencies, I, Foscarini, have renewed my correspondence with all those who, at the Hague or elsewhere, used to write to me while I was Lieger in France. I hope they will continue to do so during the term of my service in England.

London, 9th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

251. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The question of the Flemish (*i.e.* Dutch) shipping and its covering flag.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 11th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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June 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

252. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

M. de Vitry came back from England on the 8th. He reports the King's favourable disposition and his resolve not to foment ill humours among the Huguenots.

Paris, 14th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 15.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

253. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Late on Thursday the Illustrious Ambassador Correr left London. He chose that hour so that he might embark next morning at Gravesend with a fair tide. But on Friday the wind rose, and he has been forced to wait two days.

Praises Correr and recounts the honours bestowed on him; among others the King, after knighting him, gave him the sword he wore at his side; the tassels were embroidered with pearls; he also, as an extraordinary honour, authorized him to bear the British lion in two quarters of his shield. The Queen, who likes him very much, gave his wife a box containing jewels or pearls; she also gave two jewels to their son Vicenzo, who is beloved by the whole Court. These honours and favours are all of them unusual; nor do I mention the ordinary ones, though the King's fourteen pieces of silver gilt are remarkable both for size and for design, as is a diamond ring the Queen gave him with the portrait of the King and of herself. The Ambassador has not failed to make liberal presents of gold chains to the Master of the Ceremonies and to several others of the Court. The whole amounts to many hundreds of crowns; nor in view of the custom of this Court, which is most lavish, could he have done less to support the reputation of those who serve your Excellencies. There are returning home with his Lordship, after being with him the whole time of his Embassy, his son and his nephew, Pietro Loredan. Also Signor Francesco Cocco, son of Gerolamo, Pietro Loredan, son of Pietro, Guido Moresini, son of Angelo, accompany the Ambassador. Cocco and Loredano were with me in France. Moresini was only a few months with me in France, but made such a good impression that I part from him with reluctance.

London, 15th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 15.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

254. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The courier from France, who was here on the morning of the 8th, brought long despatches from Villeroy to the Ambassador. The despatches contain a statement of how the affairs stand and especially about the Huguenot Assembly, about which Villeroy is to send news as soon as he has any. The Ambassador is ordered to observe whether the Huguenots at the Assembly send an agent here; Villeroy has a suspicion that they have already done so; he

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argues this from the discussion on the proposal which took place between the Huguenot leaders and came to his ears. Villeroy believes that a good effect has been produced by sending money to the States for their troops. It seems he is more afraid of Sully than of anyone else. Bouillon continues to promise his good offices for the Queen, and so does du Plessis, and it is possible that in the disagreement between Sully and Bouillon, du Plessis may take the lead and preside. The Huguenot demands will be those I told you in my despatch from Calais. As all this is sent merely for the instruction and illumination of the Ambassador, he has not yet had audience of the King nor of Lord Salisbury. The letter is dated from Paris and says that Villeroy is to go with the Queen to Fontainebleau. A large part of the above I have from the mouth of the Ambassador himself, who is a friend of long standing. He assures me that as yet no agent of the Huguenots has come to the King. The Ambassador, on the arrival of the first courier, which will be to-day or to-morrow with news of the first sitting of the Assembly, will ask for an audience to report to the King. I will be on the watch, and by God's help your Excellencies shall be informed of all that passes.

The agent of the King of Morocco is in London. It is not thought that he has the quality of an Ambassador. His suite is small. He brings horses and falcons as a present from his Master. The French Ambassador has sent to pay him a visit nor will I fail in this act of courtesy, but before he sees the King. He lives very modestly and retired, and has with him a certain person who was his Majesty's Consul and some merchants who speak the language and are appointed by his Majesty to help him. He has been many days away from Morocco. His Master he left in the field with a great army and in good understanding with the Viceroy of Algiers, by whose help he hopes for successes against the King of Spain.

The day before yesterday Seymour, who was chosen by the Lady Arabella as her husband against the King's wishes and who was therefore imprisoned in the Tower, made his escape; Lady Arabella also is fled. Though destined to live in custody of the Bishop of Durham, near the Scottish border, by the King's clemency she was permitted to stay on hard by London.* The King only knew of it yesterday morning. Council was summoned immediately and proclamations were issued and printed the same day. I enclose them with a translation. The proclamation declares that for grave offences both were prisoners; that by the help of evil persons—some of whom are named—they had found means to fly with the intent to seek another country. Then follow the prohibition to shelter and the order to denounce and arrest them. Couriers were sent out in all directions, and especially to France, as there is some idea that they embarked not far from here. To-day, in the afternoon, the King, who was at Greenwich, returned to London. The King and Council have spent the whole day in close consultation. It is thought for certain that the flight took place by the advice and help of some personage of weight; and it is held that Lady Arabella,

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. 1611, June 4.

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who hitherto has professed the Puritan religion, may very easily become a Catholic along with her husband, in the hope of finding protection more easily.

The King in Council has published a new order obliging Catholics and Puritans alike to take the oath of allegiance which was published last year. Both Parliament and Council thought this the sole way to preserve the King's life.

London, 15th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

255. By the King.

Whereas wee are given to understand that the Lady Arbella and William Seymour, second sonne to the Lord Beauchampe, being for divers great and hainous offences committed the one to Our Towre of London, and the other to a speciall guard, have found the meanes by the wicked practices of divers lewd persons, as namely Markham, Crompton, Rodney, and others to breake prison, and escape on Munday, the third of June, with intent to transport themselves into forreine parts; Wee doe hereby straightly charge and command all persons whatsoever, upon their allegeance, and duetie, not onely to forbeare to receive, harbour or assist them in their passages anyway, as they will answere it at their perils, but upon the like charge and paine to use the best meanes they can for their apprehension, and keeping in safe custodie, which we will take as an acceptable service.

Given at Our Mannour at Greenewich the fourth day of June, in the ninth yeere of our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God Saue the King.

Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Maiestie. Anno. Dom. 1611.

[*English.*]

June 17. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

256. The Ambassador of England has made reiterated and urgent request that the rabbit-skins the property of the English merchant, Henry Parvis, now in the hands of the Export Customs Officers, should be freely restored to him on payment of the customs dues; it is desirable to oblige this Minister, who has shown himself well-intentioned and also because of the kindly treatment our subjects receive in England; be it moved that out of particular favour to the English Ambassador the Export Customs Officers shall be ordered to restore to Henry Parves the sequestrated rabbit-skins on the payment of the usual dues, and a hundred ducats to be appropriated as the said officers may think fit; and that the English Ambassador be informed.

Ayes	119.	Ayes	125.
Noes	16.	Noes	14.
Neutrals	22.	Neutrals	22.

As no resolution was reached, and after some remarks by Sig. Alvise Zorzi, *Savio* of the week, the motion was put again with this

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rider: "That fifty ducats be given to the Custom House Officers to be divided as they think fit among the officials who carried out the order, as an encouragement to them to attend to their duty."

Ayes 132.
Noes 14.
Neutrals 15.

June 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

257. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The Persian Ambassador, Sherley, after staying on here seventeen months without ever being able to get full satisfaction, made up his mind, eight days ago, to leave for England; where, he told me some time ago, he has the idea of resting, if they do not, here, come to the conclusion that he desires in regard to the trade from Persia.

Madrid, 18th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

258. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

In the Council which was sitting under the King's presidency when I sent my last despatch it was resolved to arrest Lady Shrewsbury as suspect of having helped Lady Arabella in her flight and Seymour too. The arrest took place the next morning and Lady Shrewsbury was at once examined; certain heads of interrogation were drawn up by the Council and she was ordered to reply at once. Lord Salisbury also informed the French Ambassador by word of mouth that the King desired him to send couriers to Calais and other places in France along the coast, so that if Lady Arabella and Seymour should touch there they might be arrested. The French Ambassador at once complied. The same day after all the necessary orders had been issued, arrests made both of the guard at the Tower and of others, they began an enquiry. His Majesty, after taking all possible steps, returned to Greenwich. Lord Salisbury had an express from Dover with news that Lady Arabella had been captured along with the ship she was in by a frigate of the guard a league away from Calais. Lord Salisbury went at once to the King, and the news was most welcome at Court, and especially to the Council; for as the King and Lady Arabella are descended from two sisters of Henry VIII., although she descends from the younger and is moreover a woman, it was highly displeasing to see a lady of the royal blood, so closely allied to his Majesty, and who, after his Majesty's children, is beyond doubt the nearest to the Crown and the succession, betaking herself to foreign countries, and thus possibly to offer an opportunity to some ill-affected Sovreign to act unfriendly or, may be, worse. It is added that as Seymour also claims kin, though distantly, with the Crown by their marriage they fused their interests, and by declaring themselves Catholics they hoped to find protection. It was rumoured that they were to go first to Rome for certain, and then to Spain; but now all has vanished. She will remain in London more closely guarded. She was brought there on Sunday evening. His Majesty's clemency

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will not allow of a severer treatment, unless some worse fault is found in her; for all may be attributed to her great love for the person she had chosen to be her husband.

The ship in which she escaped was very small, quite unarmed, and commanded by a Frenchman, and what is more important, there was on board a courier from the French Ambassador, with a packet of despatches for his most Christian Majesty. The crew was all French. Arabella embarked on Monday evening with three gentlemen and a maid of honour. The ship dropped down to the mouth of the river, where she had to stop for some hour or so on account of the wind. Seymour, who was in another vessel not far off, sent to visit her. The weather changed, Lady Arabella's ship resumed her voyage towards Calais, and when she was more than half way across one of the royal ships of the Guard, which two hours earlier had received orders to search all shipping, ordered her to strike her sail and haul to; the royal ship proceeded to compel obedience by firing, but finding this useless she despatched her frigate and as the sea was calm and the wind had dropped, about a league off Calais she came up with Lady Arabella's ship and instantly seized her without meeting the smallest resistance from her crew. Lady Arabella seeing herself lost, gave a good quantity of gold and other things she had with her to various persons, but chiefly to the captain. The ship was taken back to the Thames, and the courier and the captain were strictly examined. The despatches were returned to the French Ambassador, but without their covers, by the hands of the courier himself. At his first examination he was asked for the despatches and what he had done with them, also why, as he had been sent off four days earlier, he had delayed his journey and how he came to embark in that ship. The day before yesterday in the morning the French Ambassador sent to tell me some of these details; he added that the captain of the ship and the courier were both landed on the bank of the river by the King's people, and had come on to London voluntarily. The courier had handed him the letters. The Council then wished to arrest and examine the courier and the captain. The Ambassador declared that they were in no way guilty; that Arabella came on board unknown; and he asked me if I did not think that, even supposing them to have been aware, jurisdiction to punish lay rather with him and his Master than with the law of England and his Britannic Majesty. The Secretary, who told me all this, added that the Ambassador had been to complain to Lord Salisbury, and he intended to complain to the King, of whom he had demanded audience with the intention of making serious representations. The audience was named for to-day, and to-morrow the Ambassador will call on me and consult me, and he now desired to have my advice as to the form of discourse he should address to the King. I replied to the Secretary that I was highly honoured, but that it would be impossible to add anything to the resolution taken by so able a gentleman; and I passed on to other topics.

It is supposed that those who fled with Arabella will pay the penalty with their lives. From the examinations held so far they have discovered the details of the way she took to escape from the place where she was under custody, ten miles away from London.. It was very simple, for she was in charge of a gentleman who, one

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may say, served for nothing other than for form's sake*; she feigned illness for many days previously, and was seen by no one but the doctor appointed her and who attended her ordinarily; he on the plea of the illness of a relation with whom there was an understanding, brought her here to London to his house, leaving the maid who usually served her meals, which were given as a present to the Hall Porter the evening Arabella escaped. She dressed herself like a man and left the house by some gardens, mounted a horse and in little more than an hour, it is said, she rode the thirteen miles and reached the landing place. She has now been through the ordinary examination to find out whether she had an understanding with any foreign Prince and all other details. As to Seymour, so far as we know, he landed at Ostend. He escaped from the Tower by the help of his barber, who bandaged a leg, put on a false beard and otherwise disguising himself, and came to the Tower and asked for the barber, that was for himself. He was told the barber was there. He went in and Seymour disguised himself in the barber's clothes and both went out together; nor did the guards raise any difficulty as they took him for the man who had just gone in; nor did they say anything to the barber, for he was accustomed to go in and out almost daily. Here they are closely watching the kind of reception Seymour will meet with in Flanders from the Archduke, and what road he will take, whether he will change his religion and above all whether he will find any one to protect him, and whether he had entered into an understanding with any Prince before he left the Kingdom.†

London, 23rd June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

259. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador has letters of the 9th and 10th from Villeroy, in which he tells him that the Huguenot Assembly at Saumur has resolved on its demands. The Ambassador is not expressly instructed to seek audience. In his audience of to-day, if occasion offers, he may touch on the subject; if not he will confine himself to his complaints about the two persons I wrote about.

The Envoy from Morocco has not had audience yet; he is lodged and boarded at the charges of the merchants. The King's employments prevent his being received. The Tuscan Secretary (Lotto) too, who is charged to present distilled waters and other gifts, has had his reception put off, and only obtained it to-day on condition that he went without ceremony.

Letters from the King of Denmark from his Camp. He says he is besieging Kalmar and is pressing Helsberg; one looks towards the land, the other towards the sea. Rumour places his forces at twenty thousand men and sixty ships. There is also fresh news that the

* Sir James Crofts, as Salisbury writes to Trumbull; Coniers, as Moore writes to Winwood. *See* Winwood, *Mem.* III. 279.

† *See* an article on "Lady Arabella Stuart" in "The Edinburgh Review," Oct. 1896, and "The Athenæum," Sept. 11th, 1897.

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King of Sweden has put together a large body of troops and is by this time certainly strong in the field. The fortresses besieged by Denmark are very well provisioned and fit to make a lively defence. The more vigorous they see this war to grow the more eagerly they study the way to bring about peace. The question will be discussed next week. Meanwhile the Danish Envoy stays on here.

London, 23rd June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 24. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

260. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I enclose the proclamation about the oath of allegiance and add a translation. In brief the contents are these. It first sets forth that the oath established by Parliament in the third year of the King's reign was framed to discover how the King's subjects were affected as regards their fidelity. It was considered to be so necessary that Parliament, in the seventh year of this reign, petitioned that it should be administered not only to those who were suspect but to all persons of what condition soever, as a test of that loyalty which is due to their natural and legitimate Sovereign. The Proclamation goes on to say that this zeal on the part of Parliament for the security and preservation of these realms and of his Majesty, deserves to be supported and the oath administered as petitioned. Then follow strict orders to the members of the Privy Council, to Archbishops, Bishops, Justices and all whom it may concern, to administer the oath to all classes of people, and especially to those to whom by the law of the third year of this reign, it ought to be administered, and to proceed against the recalcitrant. All Saints Day is named as the limit within which his Majesty is to be certified of the places, names, abodes, and condition of those who decline to take the oath. He does not conceal from himself that, although for the love he bears his subjects he hopes there will be found none to refuse, if there should be any who has so estranged his heart from the King, his gracious Sovereign, as to have given it in whole or part to a foreign Prince, to the derogation of this Crown, then justice and severity are his due as favour and kindness are due to his loyal and worthy subjects. But seeing that such an alienation of sentiment is the precursor of still graver defects and draws nearer to the supreme offence against his Majesty, he retains the whole direction, authority, and disposition of this case in his own hands along with all confiscations depending thereon. He has named persons of position as Commissioners to gather information on all topics of importance in this case. The Proclamation concludes by saying that in order to avoid inconvenience and to arrive at greater certainty of the truth, two Justices, in place of one, will be appointed to administer the oath.

They are now putting the Proclamation into effect and administering the oath. There are not wanting those who show themselves unwilling; they discuss the nature of the oath, especially the Catholics. Certain persons have asked to be admitted to this house for a few hours and so to avoid the danger and escape from the storm, as they put it; I replied that I was at present occupied, and

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my silence has served for an answer; and so without giving offence I have saved myself. I will employ the like circumspection in the future; and I trust in God to do His service as well as that of your Serenity—which are identical—by giving complete satisfaction to the King and drawing closer together the bonds of affection and perfect understanding.

I have taken information as to what were the points of the oath. They are, to recognise the King, to serve him faithfully, to attempt nothing against his person or his Kingdom; to reveal conspiracy, to denounce conspirators, to hold for sure that the King is the legitimate owner of his Kingdoms, which were given to him by God, nor has anyone the right to deprive him of them nor to release his subjects from their allegiance. There is a declaration that the oath is taken sincerely without mental reservation or modification.

London, 24th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding dispatch.

261. A proclamation whereby it is commanded that the Oath of Allegiance be administered according to the laws.*

Whitehall, 31st May, 1611.

[*English.*]

June 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

262. Marin Cavalli, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

His Holiness has been informed that the King of England has complained to the Ambassadors resident at his Court that they admit a large number of persons to Mass in their houses; the Ambassadors have replied that as the Embassies are open it is impossible for them to prevent any one from coming in. If his Majesty desired to put an end to this he could, they say, place guards in the neighbourhood.

Rome, 25th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 25. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence, Venetian Archives.

263. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Earl of Warwick is here. That ship of his has been launched, and turns out to be good for nothing. It is likely to leak. He has just come from Genoa, to which he will return in September to join Carlo Doria. He has brought back presents of money and chains of great width. I understand that Carlo Doria is in close treaty with him to tempt him to enter the service of Spain for the purpose of building galleasses. The Grand Duke also displays regard for him, so I do not know what he will do. He professes regard for your Excellencies, and says he left Venice of necessity. He never passes through Florence without coming to see me.

Florence, 25th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Cal. S. P. Dom. under date.

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June 29.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

264. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

On the 19th came a courier to the English Ambassador with news of the flight of Arabella and her husband. He has instructions to urge the Queen to arrest them if they come to France. The Ambassador went straight to Fontainebleau, made the request and received a gracious reply, but nothing positive.

Paris, 29th June, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

June 30.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

265. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

"I am come to return thanks for the favour you have shown me in the case of that English merchant whom I commended to you. If I am come late the reason is that I was in the country when the news reached me. I am all the more obliged as I know the greatness of the favour. For myself I have not deserved it—the merchant cannot claim it as his merit, for his enemies have placed him in a suspicious light; it must therefore be attributed to the regard you desire to show for my Master, and as a proof of the continued good will towards him. As to the merchant I must say that he and all others of our nation have always striven and always will strive to be obedient; and so I cannot endure to hear one of them publicly called a defrauder, unless I see some definite judgement to that effect from some of your Courts, which has not happened as yet. The favour is a great one for the merchant, for after being condemned if he had had to appeal it would have been both long and costly, but in this way he is relieved. I beg pardon again for my delay in rendering thanks."

The Doge replied that there was no need for the Ambassador to have left the pleasure of the country, especially at this season, in order to thank us for that small favour shown to the merchant out of regard for the Ambassador. There had been a little delay in this affair as the Cabinet had studied how to oblige the Ambassador and at the same time to retain the law intact. After discussion the Cabinet moved the Senate, who willingly embraced the opportunity of showing their regard for his Majesty and of obliging the Ambassador. There are some who are suspect of defrauding the Customs, but the English do not enjoy that reputation.

[*Italian.*]

July 1.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

266. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador's representations for the liberation of the captain of the French ship and of the courier were so efficacious with the Earl of Salisbury that his Lordship sent the courier to the Embassy with a message to say that he did so to avoid annoyance, although the courier was culpable. The Ambassador was not at all satisfied; he procured the publication of a paper clearing the courier and almost testifying to his innocence,

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but in phrases of ambiguity. The same day he had audience of the King and remained for a very long time with his Majesty. He insisted on the ambiguous phrases being removed; he received a polite answer, but the phrases remain as they were written. The captain is a prisoner seriously compromised. The Ambassador omitted no points; he cited the case of Lot (?) in France, the case of the Secretary of Don Balthazar Zuniga in the Marseilles case and others elsewhere. He demonstrated that even if guilty couriers especially could not be meddled with. He produced letters from the Governor of Calais and others in reply to letters sent express by him from England, proving the readiness with which they would have arrested Arabella had she arrived in their district and that they had sent out ships to search all passing vessels. The King gave thanks for this and communicated the news from Germany; he did all he could to send the Ambassador away content. The Queen then sent for him and treated him with great intimacy and honour, so that the Ambassador appears to have been satisfied in a matter that touched him so closely.

The Countess of Shrewsbury was sent to the Tower on Saturday morning; it is said that she is almost absolutely convicted of having supplied money to Arabella, who, it is feared, has an understanding with the Catholics of this Kingdom. All diligence is being used to discover the truth.

The King's Agent in Brussels writes that he begged the Archduke to arrest Seymour and Arabella if they arrived and received for answer that the Archduke would never wrong his Majesty. His Highness sent to Spain in order to guide himself by the instructions he receives from that part. Meantime they continue to examine Arabella in the Tower; and if it does not turn out to be an affair of open conspiracy she will be well treated, though more closely guarded than she was at first, so as to avoid another flight.

London, the first of July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 1. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

267. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday there arrived here a gentleman from the Count Ruffia,* the late Ambassador of Savoy. He brings letters to the King, the Earl of Salisbury, the Earl of Northampton, the Lord Wotton and Sir Henry Wotton. These were all delivered at once, as was a letter to the Spanish Ambassador. This gentleman has made the journey in seventeen days. He says Count Ruffia is to be back here soon in quality of Ambassador to negotiate for a marriage between this Princess and the Prince of Savoy. The French Ambassador has some instructions to broach the question of a marriage between the Princess of France and the Prince; but he has not done so yet.

Lately the Archduke Albert begged the King, by letter and by a Secretary whom he keeps at this Court, for his support with Brandenburg and the Palatine in the election of

* The Count of Cartignana.

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the King of the Romans; declaring that with two others whom he has already gained he would be quite sure of the election and would acknowledge the favour shown him by the King. The King, who does not wish to see the Archduke, his neighbour, aggrandised, has replied that before all else it is needful to find out what the other candidates have in view, and he named the King of Denmark, his brother-in-law, and to see how the King of France will move. The King will have an important part in the election as he has absolute authority over Brandenburg, who is deeply obliged to him, and his intercession with the Palatine is omnipotent, as the Palatine aspires to the honour of marrying the Princess. The French Ambassador tells me that he hears from Villeroy that the Assembly at Saumur has resolved on certain demands to be presented to the Queen, but they have not been sent in yet. The Jesuits have preached seditiously in several places, against the Huguenots. It is to be feared that such sermons may make the Huguenot demands more bold. The French Ambassador in his last audience assured the King that a scandalous book printed by an Augustinian Friar, Almoner to the Grand Duchess of Tuscany, in which the King is attacked, has been censured by Parliament. This pleased his Majesty.

London, the first of July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 1. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante, Venetian Archives.

268. Michiel Priuli, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

The crew of a ship arrived from Djerbe in Barbary report that from Tunis there are put out six galleys, two with twenty-six banks of oars each and the others of twenty-four, also four great *bertons*, all fully armed. Ward, the pirate, is on board. Their destination is Calabria or the Adriatic.

Zante, the first of July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 2. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

269. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

I have been to visit the new Ambassador of England (Digby). I paid the suitable compliments and offered him on my part every sign of good will. He told me he had special orders from his Master to treat the representatives of your Serenity with the fullest confidence. He has come here with his wife and a large suite; and appears to be a person of great prudence and ability, who will live sumptuously, for in addition to the thousand crowns a month of salary which his King assigns him, he is very rich and can supply all that is required.

He has had audience of the King and the Duke of Lerma, who received him most courteously and the Duke returned his visit. As yet I do not know that he has touched any negotiations, though some say he is to find out something about the *marriage*.

Madrid, 2nd July, 1611.

[*Italian, the word in italics deciphered.*]

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1611. July 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

270. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The day before yesterday I had audience of the King, and after exchange of compliments we passed from one topic to another during the space of nearly an hour. He first of all touched on the Lady Arabella and her flight. He did not hide from me that he had resolved to marry her suitably to her rank; he knew quite well what was right and proper; he hinted that worse might be behind, though he did not seem to attach much importance to it. Then talking of Seymour he said that the Archduke had replied to his request for Seymour's arrest that he would show to his Majesty and to the whole world how much he desired to oblige him, without, however, making any definite promise. The King thinks that by this time the Archduke has made Seymour leave his States; nor is he quite satisfied. He desired me to beg your Excellencies that, if Seymour should arrive in your dominions, he should be arrested till further communication. He showed no doubt but that he would obtain this favour, as he was sure that your Excellencies would never allow your dominions to become the asylum or bridge to shelter, or to give passage to, persons of such a character; that such favours were in common use among Sovereigns, who arrested and extradited bandits for misdeeds which in no way touched the majesty of any Sovereign; he concluded by saying that one who had shown readiness to declare himself an ally in time of danger need not doubt that he would surely receive such a favour as this. I replied that there is no favour so great that it would not be promptly granted by your Excellencies to please his Majesty; the greater it was the more readily would it be embraced. Continuing on this line I endeavoured to assure his Majesty of the readiness of each and all of your Lordships to oblige him, without descending to particulars. The King listened with satisfaction; he showed his conviction that Seymour would go to the State of some other Prince; still he would like this favour as a pledge of friendship. The King is much concerned about this flight, more perhaps than he shows; it is commonly held that Seymour will go either to the States of the Pope or of his Catholic Majesty. He informed me that the Ambassador of Savoy was past Nemours and would soon be here; the Ambassador writes that he is bringing a resolution of all difficulties, and smilingly he told me that on his arrival the Ambassador had said to someone that the Princess might surely change her religion, though he had not dared to say so much to the King, but only that she might so far honour her husband as to go to church with him; to which the King had replied that if it were a question of going to church for the prayers and sermons that might pass, but there was no use in talking about the Mass.

The King then touched on the affairs of France and Germany. As to the Assembly of the Huguenots, they had settled on this form of their demand, which embraced three points: first, the free exercise of their religion; secondly, the administration of pure justice; thirdly, the pledge of their security by the holding of certain places; so that under their Majesties' protection they might continue to live in quiet and security from molestation by their seditious enemies,

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The King shows benevolence towards France and their Majesties. With that he ended the conversation.

This morning I have been to Lord Salisbury, who spoke to me in great confidence on the same topics, and nearly in the same terms as his Majesty, though rather more reservedly, except on the subject of Seymour, who, he said, was a bastard; and he gave me clear and express evidence in a very few words. He showed that he did not doubt that if Seymour came to your Excellencies' dominions he would be arrested. His Majesty's Ambassador is to request this of your Serenity and Lord Salisbury told me to bring to the notice of your Excellencies the King's desire—this he said with great warmth. I did not fail to assure his Excellency in the same way as I had assured the King, with vigour and emphasis, so that this most important minister, upon whom rests the whole government, also was satisfied.

I see that his Majesty and the Earl are so well disposed towards your Excellencies and, as far as I can see, towards him who serves you, that I venture to hope my humble services approach mediocrity.

London, 7th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

271. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The besieged in Kalmar on the Swedish frontier seeing themselves pressed by the King of Denmark and thinking to hold out better in the citadel, made a sudden sally and inflicted great loss on the Danes, who were taken for the most part unarmed. The sentinel and the guard were slain first; but the sally party could not hold their ground and so retired to the citadel, and the King of Denmark made himself master of the town and slew all who were in it down to the women and children. The King of Sweden is approaching with a powerful army and already some of his companies of horse have had sharp skirmishes with the Danish cavalry, who got the worst of it; so Kalmar has cost the King of Denmark much blood. Here they are glad at the slow progress of Poland in Russia, for this will prevent the Poles from attacking and making acquisitions in Sweden which could hardly resist if assailed from two quarters at once.

The Envoy of the King of Morocco had audience yesterday at Greenwich. I have not had time to find out what his business was; they say commerce. The King has named Carr, one of the Queen's Chamberlains, as Viceroy in Ireland. He is charged to push on the building of a city already begun and the colony to dwell in it.

Lord de la Warr, who was Viceroy in Virginia, has been here unexpectedly; he pleads that while pushing out to discover new lands he was driven here by the winds. It is not known whether this will be accepted.

The son of the Landgrave of Hesse was here the other day; it is said that he too aspires to the hand of the Princess. The Elector Palatine is also expected shortly; so she is woed and desired by many Princes in rivalry.

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I am beginning to receive letters from the Hague, but with nothing worthy of your Serenity's notice. Two noted pirates make offers to the King to give up piracy,* and to return to this country if his Majesty would grant them a pardon. A Council has been held on the subject, and a diversity of opinion was manifested; the King declared his conscience would not allow him to grant impunity so easily to such a ruffianly race who had done so much mischief in the ocean and in the Mediterranean, but that he must find out some way more consistent with his honour and his conscience to compel these and all the others as well; on the other hand the majority of the Council approve of accepting the pirates' proposals in the hope that their example would help as an incentive to others, or at least reduce their numbers and make them less capable of resistance.

They have resolved to charge the Viceroy who is going to Ireland to examine the pirates' offer and to report fully to the Council. The King intends to take the opinion of the Ambassadors of France, Spain, and your Excellencies,—Princes, all of them, whom he thinks equally interested, and he wishes to discuss the plan of a joint action for the extirpation of the pirates. As I am not aware of your Excellencies' wishes in the matter I must move very cautiously unless it please you to send me instructions as to your interests and desires in the matter. When in France I had occasion to write several times on a similar topic, but never received any instructions.

The King is putting off his Progress, which will begin in two or three months, and will last little more than a month, that is a third of its usual time. The delay is caused by the recent drought, and the lack of all provisions in this year of penury. Corn, oats, and hay have doubled in prices.

Since my arrival in this Kingdom the Plague has not been violent, and is far below the average; there are only nine parishes in London affected by it. Worse is expected; may it not please God so.

London, 7th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

272. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of France, who came to visit me two hours ago, has letters from M. de Champigny, dated the 29th and sent by courier express, who made the journey *via* Brussels in eight days. The Ambassador has brief despatches in cipher from Brussels. He did not tell me the cause of this, but added that Champigny warns him that within four days he will receive despatches from Rome. I did not show any curiosity nor have I had time to find out by

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. 1611-1618, p. 55. "Examination of John Collever and others who have been taken, concerning the number and strength of the pirate fleet. They have in all 40 ships and 2,000 men; their place of rendezvous is at Marmora (Ma'amura) in Barbary." Winwood, *Mem.* III. 286. "Easton the pirate, with some of his companions, offer to surrender themselves and their goods, upon condition of pardon."

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other channels anything to report to your Excellencies, as the Ambassador has only just left me. I believe your Excellencies will hear from other sources far sooner. The Ambassador told me that there was some not quite good understanding between the Pope and your Serenity about Ceneda. He recalled the late King's attitude, and dwelt on the desirability of a good understanding between France, England, your Serenity, and other Princes who are guided by the same aims and interests. He did not hesitate to say that those who are but little friendly to your Excellencies are also enemies of France, and would be glad to disturb the peace of both States; on this point he dwelt at length. I replied readily but with a little more reserve, declaring that your Excellencies' sole policy was the maintenance of universal peace and the preservation of your State and prestige. That the Republic was mindful of all that the late King had done for the peace of Italy, and was well assured that, had occasion required it, he would have come with all his forces to the aid of your Serenity. That the Republic held the same assurance about the Queen, for whom it nourished a lively, sincere, and reverent affection. As to a good understanding with England, every one knew it could not be better, which the Ambassador confirmed, and said that the connection with the States also had a good beginning.

He went on to tell me that M. de Boissise had brought the demands addressed by the Huguenots to the Queen, so that there is every prospect of the Assembly dispersing quietly.

I endeavour to maintain relations of confidence between myself and the French and Spanish Ambassadors. We are quite on an equal footing both as regards titles, which in the case of Spain is "Most Illustrious," as in the matter of attending and receiving. After my audience the Secretaries of France and of the Archduke, who were at Court, accompanied me to my carriage with the same ceremony as they would have used to the Ambassadors of their own Sovereigns. True it is that the King's favours help your Excellencies and him who serves you.

London, 7th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

273. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

Two days ago the English Ambassador came to see me. After some remarks of no moment he went on to say that to him it seemed that the Capudan Pasha was not so desirous to see the Dutch Ambassadors here as he was; the alliance between the Porte and the Dutch would be injurious to everybody, and he is resolved on the arrival of the new French Ambassador (Sanci) to unite with him in advising the Sultan to adhere to his old friends instead of making new ones. A similar representation had been made before this, when there was a question of receiving a Spanish Ambassador.*

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 9th July, 1611.

[*Italian, deciphered.*]

* *See* Winwood, *Mem.* III. p. 284.

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1611.
July 9.
Senato Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

274. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Three of the English captains who were to come to reside in Leghorn have arrived. They were first of all re-blessed at Pisa, as they now make profession of Catholicism. They have brought no ships with them; they have left them at Ma'amura, where the others are. The Earl of Warwick will try to make them come here, but it is doubtful whether they will leave that place where they have freedom to prey on friends and foes alike, nor do they desire to share their booty with the Grand Duke. The scheme, however, is not desperate; and if they come it is to be feared that under the flag of the Grand Duke they will do much more mischief than has happened in the past. Meantime in Leghorn all work on ships is at a standstill, nor are there any preparations for privateering.

Florence, 9th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 13.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

275. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador had audience of the Queen, and in his Master's name gave an account of the capture of Arabella; he dwelt unfavourably on the details of the flight. He then went on to speak of the Huguenot Assembly, and congratulated himself that everything had passed off quietly, as his Majesty's efforts intended. He added other remarks to induce her Majesty not to be too punctilious but to yield the Huguenots some reasonable satisfaction. The Queen replied that she would do her duty by her son and her Kingdom, and would take the opinion of the Princes and Ministers.

Paris, 13th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

276. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Envoy from Morocco at the audience he had of the King presented letters from his Master, whom he styles Emperor. He raised the question of closer commercial relations and showed a strong desire on the part of his Sovereign to draw close to England, from which he thinks he can receive many benefits, as he does from the United Provinces. The Envoy said his Master had a strong army and was expecting gunners from Holland; he intended to push forward with a firm foot. The King returned the compliments and said that as to commerce it was a matter to be dealt with, and in the interests of the merchants it would be needful to hear their views; the Kingdom was open to all, and especially to friends, both for import and export. The Envoy closed his audience by making the present of horses and other things. The letters from the King of Morocco convey his fixed resolve to be on good terms with the King of Engand for the mutual development of commerce. He just touches on his army, and refers all else to the bearer. The Spanish

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Ambassador, with whom I have recently conversed, told me that he had letters from Spain dated the 25th of last month with news that the King of Morocco had mobilized his forces—with the intent, it was thought, to attack El Arisch and Oran; the Ambassador pointed out that those places could be succoured in twenty-four hours quite easily, and are well provisioned. He did not deny that some weeks ago gun-founders and gunners had arrived from the States, but he did not attach much importance to this.

The Ambassador of the States* had audience this day week. He had a two-fold mission, first about the debt of one million one hundred and twenty thousand crowns which his Masters owe to this Crown as a third of the money supplied them at their need by the late King of France. The Ambassador requested that his Majesty should remit the half of this debt and receive the rest in instalments after the satisfaction of all their other debts, which they are paying off at the rate of one hundred and sixty thousand crowns a year. The second point was that Dutch war vessels should be allowed to enter the Irish harbours where the pirates find shelter and to make them prisoners, deal severely with and punish them.† As to the money the Ambassador hopes by an immediate payment of two hundred and fifty thousand crowns to receive a quittance in full. As to the pirates he had a favourable answer from the King, but not quite conclusive. The question was discussed in Council and the Ambassador who was with the Earl of Salisbury the day before yesterday received full permission, so that Dutch ships may in future chastise pirates in all ports of the Kingdom of Ireland, both following them up in the act of flying or going on purpose to attack them in the harbours except such as are fortified, inside which of course the pirates cannot find shelter. This shows that the idea of the King and Council is to extirpate the pirates by force rather than in any other way, and it is thought a matter of moment that his Majesty should oblige the States in so important an affair.

Last week Pindar, late Consul in Syria, was here. He has brought very minute information as to the trade with England, which is now greatly shrunk, voluntarily, for it is found more paying to bring spices and other things from India by sea than to go to Syria to buy them at that great price which is necessitated by the cost of transport to Syria partly by sea and partly by land, an important point; besides that the ocean is less infested than the Mediterranean and so goods arrive more safely; here the India voyage is already familiar. Pindar has had interviews with some members of the Council; he shows himself most thoroughly informed, and it is thought that he will be asked to put in writing what he is now saying *viva voce*. He has been to see me and told me that the trade of Marseilles was most flourishing; that the French Vice-Consul had gained in a few years upwards of a hundred thousand crowns in fees. He told me that all the mischief in Venetian trade arose from sending out the ships ill manned, ill commanded, so that, as experience shows, they easily sink or are plundered by every little pirate, for they do not fight. He dwelt at length on this. He pointed out the advantages

* Sir Noel de Caron. † *See* Winwood, *Mem.* III. p. 285.

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of the port of Venice, where a profit can be made both going and coming, which cannot be said of Marseilles. There, owing to lack of merchandize, they send money. When I remarked that with money you traded faster, he said that Venetian cloth and silk were money; they had a fixed price and sold at once as the Turks require good stuff like that, and the same quality is produced year after year, nor does it ever vary, a thing that can not be said of other stuffs which are now better, now worse, both in quantity and in quality, and therefore have no fixed prices nor repute, and so one loses time in disposing of them. He dwelt on the point that Marseilles now supplies almost all Germany with Levant goods, as Venice used to do. He pointed out that the voyage to Marseilles was both longer and more dangerous than the voyage to Venice, which is within hands' reach.

As to extirpating the pirates, he declares that he holds it an almost impossible task. He pointed out the indifference with which they lose their ships, as for example last year, when it was thought they had been reduced to straits. He thinks the only way is to send the ships well manned and well guarded, so that they need not fear the pirates, who, if they were left a year or two without booty, would be forced to give up buccaneering. Pindar has informed the King of the good terms he is on with the Illustrious Consul Sagredo, whose praises are sung throughout the Court; Pindar says his qualities render him worthy of a much higher place where he could more usefully serve his country. Pindar told me that the French Consul had by letter authorized Sagredo to arrest and punish the French Vice-Consul, who then humbled himself; his Illustrious Lordship consented to two honourable accommodations as regards the cloth. The affair is now quite quiet.

London, 14th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

277. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Friday the Queen had letters from the King of Denmark, her brother, with news that after taking the town of Kalmar he had also taken the castle at the third assault. He says he has now planted his foot in Sweden and made himself master of an important harbour, where he had burned eleven of the King of Sweden's ships. He shows that he considers the acquisition important and hopes for further success. The Queen is much pleased. The day before she had sent letters written by her own hand to her brother, complaining that news came through other channels and that the King rarely sent information of his progress.

The delay in the arrival of the Ambassador of Savoy breeds a suspicion that the Duke is not going on well. On the other hand the Princess is being eagerly sought for the Elector Palatine. The Landgrave of Hesse had an audience of the King on Sunday and of the Queen yesterday. He was well received. We don't know yet whether he touched on marriage or confined himself to compliments. The Spanish Ambassador has not seen the King for many days, nor does it seem that the match with the Infanta is progressing. This is displeasing here; nor has the French

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Ambassador made his proposals. He is waiting anxiously to see if the Spanish proposals move ahead.

Lady Arabella and the Countess of Shrewsbury are both strictly confined to the Tower. Their examination continues with a view of probing the affair to the bottom. It seems, from what is rumoured, that it has far-reaching roots.

The French Ambassador had despatches three days ago and assures me all is quiet in France. As the Huguenots' demands are reasonable they will easily meet with a gracious reply, although the Queen does not desire to depart from the attitude of the late King, but merely to confirm it. This will not suffice, however, in times of such suspicion as is sown broadcast by those who wish ill to France. But this will not happen, for the Queen and her advisers are full of prudence and good will.

Paris, 14th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

278. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After the despatch of the last ordinary post, there has been continual talk at Court about some difference between your Serenity and the Pope over Ceneda.* On the one hand they say excommunication has been launched against those who appeal to your Excellencies, on the other that an order has been issued threatening with death any Venetian who recognises a temporal Superior other than your Serenity, his lawful and only Sovereign. On Sunday I was asked by a person of quality what news I had on the subject, adding that his Majesty had spoken about it. I replied that I knew nothing about it. Seeing that this rumour was gaining ground I thought it best to say to Lord Salisbury that at first I had paid no attention to it, but that I now wished to assure him that I had no news about the matter, and that the moment I had any worthy of his notice, I would at once communicate it. His Lordship was pleased; said he had from Venice some confirmation of the rumour; thought it would all "end in a literary warfare," to use his very words. The Ambassador of the States has also touched on the subject to me. He assures me that his Masters would willingly embrace the opportunity to show to your Excellencies and the whole world how readily they would unite their forces in so just a cause. He expatiated on the subject, and did not omit to point out how much his Masters could do, as they have in one single place one hundred and fifty ships all ready, and had no lack of men to man them.

London, 14th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 20. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

279. Deposition of Christofole Guilolcei, an English gentleman who had arrived on board the "White Lion." He had left Constantinople three months ago and was bound for Venice on his way home.

Zante, 20th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Winwood, *Mem* III. pp. 277, 283.

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1611.
July 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

280. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Friday I had audience of the Queen and found her surrounded by almost all the chief ladies of the Court, and many of the nobility. After the preliminary compliments she made me be seated and began to talk of the affairs of France. She questioned me as to the habits and tastes of the French Queen and Princesses, looking at some of her own ladies all the while. I embarked on their praises, which I saw pleased her Majesty. After some pleasant talk she went on to say that the Princess, her daughter, had but just left her. She hinted at the delay of the Ambassador of Savoy, who should have been here already by what the gentleman of his suite had said. As to the Spanish match for the Prince she just touched on it and then avoided it; letting me understand, however, that she thought there was nothing else to be done, though the matter was still far off. As to the Elector Palatine he was pressing his suit for the Princess, and her marriage to some one of her suitors was, probably, both easier and nearer than that of the Prince. It is easy to see that her Majesty inclines to the Spanish Infante, of whom she thinks very well. She made particular enquiries about the French Princesses, their habits, their beauty, etcetera. I was enthusiastic. Her Majesty reflected, but said nothing. She went on to speak of her sons, and of the Duke of York whom she especially praised. We talked for nearly an hour; I then rose; the Queen said I should come sometimes as she would be glad to see me and I would be received in private. I took my leave. I wished the King a good journey, as their Majesties are on the point of departure for Hampton Court where they will stay ten or twelve days, and then begin their Progress, which will, for the reasons given, last only twenty or twenty-five days.

I shall beg audience of the Prince and Princess before they leave for Hampton Court to follow their Majesties with but a small suite.

The King bade me be of good cheer till his return and to make use of his barges, as he had given orders to the Admiral that they were all at my disposal and not merely one or two as is usual with other Ambassadors. The King has news that Seymour is in Liege, which is on the confines of Flanders, Germany and France. He thinks he can't stay long in Liege but will surely make for Spain or Italy and the States of the Pope, or of his Catholic Majesty should he despair of pardon here, where he has already written. He well knows, as do all persons, the clemency of his Majesty, who is always happy when he can help or pardon.

London, 21st July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

281. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I had letters the day before yesterday from Brussels. The Archduke is going to send M. de Peckius (*Pechus*), who was his Lieger in France, and M. de Maase (*Masio*), both personages of quality, to the Hague, where the States are holding a General Assembly. They go

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as Envoys, and are charged to settle some points that are still under controversy, as is said. But your Excellencies will gather that the mission has deeper roots, and is sent by express orders from Spain. Their object is to convert the twelve years' truce into a perpetual peace on conditions very favourable to the States, and thus to conclude all to the satisfaction of each party. If they find a readiness to this arrangement the Admiral of Aragon and the Marchese Spinola will be sent at once with full powers. This important news has made the French Ambassador very anxious, and he uses all means in his power to penetrate the motives of the Spanish Council, which are as yet unknown, though the information is absolutely correct, as I know from a sure source that his Majesty has letters from Brussels and from Spain in the same sense. Yesterday I had a long conversation with the Ambassador of the States, who did not conceal from me the fact that he had despatches from Barneveldt with like information. The Ambassador did not seem pleased at the news; he suspected that there might be some deception underneath, and hopes the States will not entirely lend an ear. He told me that the States do not get much benefit from the truce, as they continue to pay the same troops as before and are deprived of many advantages they enjoyed from a freer navigation.

I have despatches from the Hague reporting various proposals made by Ambassadors and Agents of the German Princes in favour of the confederates of Hall. A satisfactory issue is expected, as the States lent a gracious ear.

The Ambassador of the States also told me that wherever he goes the Illustrious Correr receives unwonted honours and presents.

Some charges against the Earl of Northumberland have appeared, and if they are proved he will be in a bad way.* The Earl of Shrewsbury has supplicated the King on behalf of his wife, who is still a prisoner, but in vain; nay, he received a very sharp answer.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is added to the Council, to its small satisfaction and on the King's absolute command.

As I was closing this despatch came news that the pirates have plundered two ships, in one of which was much of the Illustrious Correr's belongings. I hear that the said pirates, who were eight altogether, had just previously fought four ships from Danzig and had captured three, two of them laden with muscat.

London, 21st July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 24. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

282. Francesco Donado, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Report on the attempts to liberate Zuanne Pasqualigo and companions, now slaves in Patras. The negotiations were carried on by Edward Coulston, who lives and trades there and is highly respected. He was once Vice-Consul. To oblige Donado he undertook the task and agreed to disburse the hundred and twenty

* Tim. Elkes, servant to the Earl, had accused his master of some participation in the Gunpowder Plot. The matter is explained by Salisbury to Winwood. *Mem.* III. p. 287. *See also* Cal. S.P. Dom.

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thousand aspers demanded as ransom. This will avoid the risk of sending such a large sum of public money. The affair was not entrusted to the Venetian Consul Biffi, as he is unpopular.

Zante, 24th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 26. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

283. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday, the 23rd, the King had letters from Spain sent by his Ambassador to Brussels, whence his Majesty's agent re-posted them on the 21st. The Ambassador gives an account of his arrival at the Court and of his first interview with Lerma and another important minister on the subject of the marriage of the Infanta to the Prince. At the audience I had yesterday with the Queen at Hampton Court I gathered confirmation of this.

There are letters from the Count of Ruffia dated from Turin and addressed to the Spanish Ambassador, to some gentlemen of the Court and to a gentleman of the Queen. Some of these I have seen. Ruffia says that his Highness is about to send him here, but he does not specify the day and his arrival is thought to be doubtful.

The French Ambassador, who is interested in these negotiations for marriage, tells me that in France the question of the Savoy match has been re-opened, and that the Duke has made some fresh proposals; but here they say the invitation came from France.

News from Brussels. On the 21st the Envoys of the Archduke had not yet set out for the Hague. It seems that they desired some rumour of their mission to precede them so that they might the more easily discover the disposition of the States towards a perpetual peace with Spain and the Archduke. The same letters bring news of the death of the Duke of Saxony, whom John George will succeed. On the fifth, in the City of Aix (*Exes*), an Imperial City, the Catholics and Huguenots had a violent quarrel; the Huguenots got the best of it and ill-used the Catholics, especially the Jesuits. Things of a similar nature took place at Mainz, too. Two days ago the Queen had letters from the King of Denmark. The contents are an absolute secret, as she has communicated them to no one; this makes people think the news can not be good. There is a rumour that the King has been wounded in the arm by a harquebus, and has received a blow from the King of Sweden, but this does not come from a sure source. Some of the points claimed by the Huguenots are still unsettled. The Queen would not grant her assent. All the same things are tending towards quiet.

London, 26th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

284. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Two Ambassadors, one from Brandenburg the other from Neuburg, are here. They arrived almost contemporaneously, but their aims are different. Neither has had audience nor do they seem to be in

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any hurry. As far as I can find out the Ambassador of Brandenburg brings the Imperial investiture of Cleves, and Neuburg will have the same immediately, and he will deal with the Electoral Diet and the election of the King of the Romans, also with the affairs of Germany. The Ambassador of Neuburg comes to explain to his Majesty his Master's claims and to point out what he hoped for from the accord between Brandenburg and Saxony. Only the death of Saxony will prevent him going further, and unless he has some other mission his Embassy will resolve itself into mere compliments.

The Archduke Albert, while apparently assisting his brother Mathias in the election of King of the Romans, is secretly pushing his own candidature; it is little more than two weeks since he sent over here to beg the King's interest with the three Protestant Electors. His Majesty's answer was that at present we must attend to the issue of the Diet, and that it was premature to speak of aught else. This both the French Ambassadors have from different quarters. Leopold stands well with Spain, who will support him for the Empire with intent to marry him to the eldest Infanta; but as yet they are waiting the right moment. It is thought that in the midst of so many pretenders the election of the King of the Romans may produce confusion and war.

All the lords of the Council have been here for the impeachment of the Earl of Northumberland on the charge of *læsa Majestas*, participation in the Gunpowder Plot and perhaps in other conspiracies. It is rumoured that he will lose his life and his estates will be confiscated. Indeed I hear that last night he was put to death in the Tower, though I cannot affirm this, as yesterday I spent in waiting on the Queen by her command at Hampton Court and to-day in writing. The other prisoners are strictly guarded, and they are pushing forward their examination, to their great terror.

There is here a gentleman of the Duke of Mantua with letters to the King and Queen announcing the birth of a son. He visited me. I thought it my duty to admit him and to invite him to this house; as I held it for your Excellencies' service that agents from Italian Princes should seek protection from your Serenity's Ambassador, although there are resident here Ambassadors from France and Spain. He will be back here in a day or two, and will then go to Flanders to the Archduke and the Infanta, and thence to Lorraine. The pirates who plundered the ships, about which I wrote, have set the crews at liberty. They announced that if they obtained the King's pardon as besought by two of their leaders they would restore the ships and their cargoes, which are valued at one hundred and fifty thousand crowns. The interested parties accordingly support the petition for pardon.

I must not keep silence as to the favours shown me yesterday by the Queen in an audience she gave me of her own accord. It lasted three hours; and she caused me to hear her music from a very private gallery, where she was, now on foot, now seated. She talked most graciously to me; and all this to honour your Excellencies, to whom she bade me convey the expression of her great

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good will to serve you. "Serve" was the word she used, and I have never heard it from royal lips. I returned thanks in the best way I could.

The Queen talked mostly about her mother, her brother, the greatness of her house, her debt to God for so many favours, of her desire to go to Hamburg to see her mother if she would consent to come to that city to meet her and give her her benediction. She spoke of her sorrow for the death of the Duke of Saxony, for whom she would go into mourning if the King would allow her, but of that she was doubtful.

After the arrival of the Minister of Morocco a very rich vessel has come from that kingdom. There is a report that the ships sent by the States for the service of the King of Morocco have arrived. The King very likely knows of the intention of the Spanish to seize the port of Ma'amura on the ocean. It cannot be pleasing to any who have an interest there to see the King of Spain plant a foot in Africa, and thus to hold in his absolute power the passage and Strait that join the ocean and the Mediterranean. But the great preparations of the King of Morocco will perhaps induce others to look rather to the preservation of what they have than to acquisitions elsewhere.

London, 28th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 28. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

285. To the Ambassador in England.

Approval of what he said in his audience of the King on the 7th inst. As his Majesty made an urgent request that Seymour, who fled from England on account of the Lady Arabella, should be arrested if he entered our states; we, desiring to show our regard for the King, have promptly given the necessary orders and a description of Seymour, as furnished by his Majesty's Ambassador, so that if he should arrive he may be arrested. You are to inform his Majesty of this and report to us.

Further, that the Cabinet issue such orders as are needed to give effect to the above resolution, and inform the English Ambassador.

Ayes 144.
Noes 4.
Neutrals 10.

[*Italian.*]

July 29. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

286. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and after taking his seat the Doge spoke as follows:

Your Lordship has come opportunely, for we were on the point of sending to summon you. We have despatches from our Ambassador in England, in which he reports that at an audience granted by the King, his Majesty spoke of Lady Arabella and of Seymour, who has fled from Court. He showed a desire to have Seymour in his hands, as he has secured Arabella; he therefore begged that if Seymour should arrive in our dominions he might be arrested. Desiring to satisfy his Majesty as far as in us lies, we at once, in accord

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with the Senate, resolved to oblige him, and to issue the necessary orders along with the description of Seymour that may be furnished to us by your Lordship, so that if he reaches our dominions he may be arrested. Our Ambassador informs us that you were to prefer a like request in his Majesty's name; but, in order to prove our readiness, we thought it well not to wait, and also not to lose time in issuing the orders on receipt from you of information as to where he is and what he is like. We have informed you of this so that you may report to his Majesty.

The Ambassador said: "It is true, most Serene Prince, that I have orders from his Majesty to make a similar request; but seeing that I have been forestalled by your kindness I must apply myself not to requests but to thanks." He renders thanks and will report to his Majesty, who will certainly appreciate the kindness. He will endeavour to find out about the moves of Seymour and will at once inform the Doge. His Majesty desires to have this man in his hands not because he is of any moment, for he is poor, the offspring of an irregular marriage and a bastard, but because he has had the audacity to seduce the King's cousin, whom the King intended to marry according to her rank. Seymour is a pauper and it is hard to say where he can find asylum owing to his Majesty's friendly relation with all Sovreigns. He will have to go about disguised. The Ambassador will keep a look-out and inform the Doge.

The Doge said it would be as well to furnish some particulars as to this person's face, height and build, so as to be on their guard.

The Ambassador then said that the great heat had prevented him from coming to render thanks for favours granted. He has suffered much.

The Doge said the heat had been excessive and all had suffered. He was glad the Ambassador had recovered and had such a good colour. If it ever happened that a request by the Ambassador was not granted that must be attributed to the strictness of the law, not to lack of goodwill.

The Ambassador added, "It only remains for me to say that although your Serenity has granted a pass for the goods belonging to Lord Salisbury's nephew so that they can be exported free of charge, the Custom House officer insists on being heard in opposition. I do not beg you not to listen to him; I only beg that you will do so as soon as possible, for a ship leaves for England in ten days: if that is missed we must wait four months."

The Doge said they would send for the Customs officer and settle the matter as soon as possible.

[*Italian.*]

July 29. Collegio, Lettere, Secrete, Venetian Archives.

287. To the Ambassador in England.

Sending a copy of the audience with the English Ambassador (in the matter of Seymour).

Ayes 21.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

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July 30.
Collegio, Lettere, Secrete, Venetian Archives.

288. To the Rectors of Padua.

To be read privately.

We have, along with the Senate, resolved, in order to gratify the King of England, that should the Englishman Seymour enter our dominions he is to be arrested as a fugitive and kept in custody till further orders. If in the meantime we receive any special information as to where he is, as to his height and appearance, which may be of service to you in this affair, we will not fail to let you know.

Also to Vicenza, Bergamo, Brescia, Crema, Treviso, Salò, Chioggia, and Rovigo.

[*Italian.*]

July 30.
Collegio, Lettere, Secrete, Venetian Archives.

289. To the Rectors of Verona.

To be read privately.

Having resolved, in order to gratify the King of England, that should the Englishman Seymour, a fugitive, enter our dominions, he shall be arrested, you are to order the captain of the *Chiusa** and any other you think right, that they are to use all diligence to find out whether Seymour arrives from that quarter, and if he does to arrest and send him into Verona, where you will keep him under strict guard and inform us.

If we have any further information as to his whereabouts, height, appearance, we will inform you.

The same to Padua, Bergamo, Crema, Brescia, Treviso, Salò, Vicenza, Udine.

Ayes 21.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

July 30.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives

290. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Pedro di Toledo has gone with his ships to San Lucar in order to be near to the port of Ma'amura, whose entrance he intends to block by sinking ships filled with stones bound together by mortar, in order to prevent the place from serving as an harbour for pirates.

The three galleons of the fleet which came from Lisbon and joined company to cruise off the coast were attacked by a great English ship that was buccaneering. She took these for merchantmen, but they engaged so vigorously that the English were driven to despair and fired the ships as is their custom; and all perished.

Madrid, 30th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

* The gorge of the Adige near Rivoli.

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1611.
July 30.
Senato Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

291. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Grand Duke's galleys are back in Leghorn; they report having seen no armed vessels except the English lying at Ma'amura.

Florence, 30th July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 31.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

292. Marc' Antonio Correr, retiring Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On my departure from London, I crossed the sea to Flushing, as I found that passage both shorter and less troublesome than that by Calais. I have been everywhere received by the Magistrates, and when they had notice I have been met and lodged. At Breda I found the Prince of Orange and his brothers Prince Maurice and Count Henry, and their brother-in-law Don Antonio of Portugal. They invited me to dinner, and sent me their illegitimate brother Justin, Governor of Breda, with whom I had the pleasure of going round the town. It is one of the strongest places on those frontiers. At the Castle I found the Prince, his brother and brother-in-law awaiting me. They met me almost at the door. After long talk, compliments and discourses, they themselves showed me over the fortifications one by one.

Prince Maurice desires war for the sake of keeping the Provinces united. He says he is sure the King of France regretted having persuaded them to make peace.

On my departure I was accompanied as far as St. Gertrudenberg by the Baron of Cassel, General of Artillery, and Governor of that place, who pressed me to sup with him that evening. That same night there appeared five boats belonging to Prince Maurice sent by him to accompany me to Dortrecht. At the Hague I was nobly lodged and paid my respects to the Estates. I was assured of the esteem in which they held your Serenity. In the Free Cities I was also highly honoured, and at Munich the Duke sent his chamberlain to offer me his services, and to ask if I wished to see his Highness. I replied that my secretary had already had orders to go immediately after dinner to ask an audience; which he did, begging that it might be granted at once so as to allow me to proceed on my journey the next day. His Highness sent the Baron de Terring instantly with carriages to say that he would see me after Vespers, and meantime they prepared rooms to lodge me. The Duke met me in the antechamber, and we went into another room, where he caused me to be seated and covered before he would allow me to speak. He discoursed at length. He would not allow me to depart, but kept me three days and took me out stag-hunting. He dislikes King Mathias' decision, and thinks the quarrel between the two brothers is hurtful to the Catholics of Germany. He says the continuation of the war against the Turk would have been a good thing, for in his present weakness there might have been some success. He asked for news about Persia, and when I told him about the Turkish army that had last year penetrated into that

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kingdom, he remarked that it was no such remarkable achievement considering that the whole Turkish force was employed. He enquired about the naval strength of the Republic, and remarked that now was the time for her to do something if she found support in other Sovreigns. I replied that the Republic always did her duty by keeping so many garrisons on the frontiers, and by maintaining galleys, not only in the Adriatic, but in most of the waters of Greece. Venice was always ready to spend herself in the service of Christendom; and was more exposed to attack than other powers. The Duke then spoke about Savoy and Aix-la-Chapelle. All three days that I was in Munich I had the attendance of Baron de Terring, the use of the ducal carriages and of the Swiss guard, the gentlemen and pages of the Court. In Bavaria I heard there was plague in Tyrol. The Duke had placed Innsbruck in quarantine, though on better information he re-opened trade. All the same I avoided that city. Arrived at Brixen I learned that Trent was closed against all who come from or go to Venetian territory, in retaliation for having placed Trent in quarantine. Permission was refused to an Augsburg merchant. I will take information.

Brixen, 31st July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 31. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

293. Marc' Antonio Correr, retiring Venetian Ambassador to England, to the Doge and Senate.

News about Posen, and the Protestant rising in Aix-la-Chapelle. The Governor driven out of the Town Hall and the Jesuits attacked. Quarrel between the Duke of Bavaria and the Archbishop of Salzburg over duty on salt.

King Mathias desired to marry the Princess Magdalen, sister of the Duke of Bavaria; she wants to marry the Archduke Leopold and her brother also desired it, as he considered the King impotent. Mathias is now treating for one of the daughters of Archduke Ferdinand of Innsbruck, and the Princess Magdalen, the match with Leopold having fallen through, regrets her lost opportunity.

Brixen, 31st July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

July 31. Senato Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

294. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke intends to send the Count of Ruffia back to England. Ruffia's Secretary has already gone there. They desire to carry on and keep alive negotiations in England. If in these negotiations the marriage of the Princess Maria to the Prince of Wales could be brought about that would give complete satisfaction to his Highness; but the marriage of the Prince of Piedmont to the English Princess he would rather use as a means for advancing his cause with France.

Turin, the last day of July, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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1611.
Aug. 4.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

295. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

News from the Hague that at the General Assembly of the States they are giving their attention to three points; to bring about peace between Sweden and Denmark; to hear the proposals of the Protestant Princes of Germany; to study the way to increase their commerce. As to the first, they have determined to appoint Ambassadors to both Kings. These Embassies will receive support by letter and in every other way from England. As to the second, the death of the Duke of Saxony has partly altered and partly suspended all proposals. It seems that the Duke John George regards the Prince of Anhault with much favour, will follow his advice, will draw towards Brandenburg, and cast a gracious eye on the diet of Hall. As regards commerce various plans for the ocean and Mediterranean have been brought forward, but nothing decided yet; it is probable, however, that as they have a large number of ships they will undertake something of moment.

The King of Denmark's defeat is confirmed. He has lost one thousand men. It took place near Kalmar while he was attacking a fort on the sea. It was not, however, a pitch-battle, nor was the whole army involved. The Swedes also suffered, but far less. Both armies are close together and both are led by their kings.

The Ambassador of Brandenburg had audience at Windsor; it was brief and dealt with little else than compliments. He has not returned yet. Perhaps at a second audience he will open his negotiations.

The Prince Landgrave has been with his Majesty, who kept him to dine with him and took him to the chase. He came back two days ago and sent to ask at what hour I could receive him; I sent at once to pay my respects, as I would have done sooner only I desired to see some sign of regard paid to your Excellencies' Embassy as had been done to France and Spain. He told me he had special orders from his father to visit your Serenity's Ambassador.

The French Ambassador told me that after eight days he had received three couriers from M. de Villeroy telling him that almost all the points put forward by the Huguenot Assembly had been granted by the Queen. The Ambassador did not conceal from me that they demanded the confirmation of the Edict of Nantes, but they eventually were satisfied with modifications in it. The Huguenot deputies are to continue for life; so they will elect six, from whom the Queen will choose two. In the passages in public documents, where they are described as of the "pretended" reformed religion, they demand the cancelling of the word "pretended" which has been introduced by their enemies with a seditious and scandalous intent. As regards the cautionary towns they have received some satisfaction. The Deputies sent again to the Queen to beg her to grant the few points they demand; if she consents the Assembly will separate and all will end peacefully. If she does not the Assembly may make a difficulty about dissolving.

London, 4th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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1611.
Aug. 4.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

296. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have tried to discover the contents of the despatches from Spain, but have only succeeded partially. The English Ambassador in audience with the King of Spain made a long discourse on the question of a marriage between the first Infanta and the Prince of Wales. The person who told me this says that it is most unusual for the King to grant a long audience, and he thinks this looks like a beginning in earnest.

On the 29th a courier arrived from the Grand Duke to his Secretary (Lotto), who at once went to Windsor, where he was well received by the Queen. He also saw the King, but merely kissed his hand. He then went to Richmond and saw the Prince. He has brought a casket with a portrait of the Grand Duke's sisters, and especially of the second, whose beauty the Secretary had commended already to the Queen.

The French Ambassador informs me that the Grand Duke is offering one of his sisters to the Prince of Savoy, and that negotiations are opened. Most of his news comes from M. de Villeroy, to whom the Ambassador is closely bound.

The Agent of the Duke of Mantua has been to Hampton Court and presented his letters. He was answered by the Queen. He will get the King's answer in a day or two from the Treasurer; since his return he lodges with me.

The Earl of Northumberland is still closely guarded in the Tower. He has out of his own mouth confessed some points of importance as regards the Gunpowder Plot. His trial will go on and the sentence is put off till the King's return.

The heads of the interested parties have begged a pardon for the pirates; their petition has already been answered; but as the pirates have put together eleven ships, and have recently made great plunder, there is a doubt whether they will accept the pardon on the conditions on which it has been obtained. If they do not, seeing that there are a number of very rich ships making now for London from various quarters which cannot escape the ambuscades, this market will receive a severe shock, nor will the royal ships which they may send out be sufficient, for they cannot be in all places at once.*

The King will have started on his Progress yesterday towards Salisbury; nor will he go further. The Prince does not attend his Majesty, so as to lessen the burden on the country.

I sent to wait upon the Earl of Salisbury a few days after his return from attending the King. I will myself call at a fitting moment.

The Spanish Ambassador, before leaving London for change of air, called on me, though he is in delicate health; and yesterday his son called while I was out, so there are friendly relations. The

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., July 17, Nottingham to Salisbury. The pardon comes too late. Deprecates sending out a small force, as it can only yield dishonour. *See* also Winwood, *Mem.* III. 286. On July 5, Sir Ferdinando Gorges reports the capture of certain merchantmen of London by English pirates of Scilly.

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French Ambassador is getting ready, and in five or six days he will go to Salisbury to salute the King on the 15th, a day on which his Majesty's life was miraculously saved, for which reason he appreciates all signs of rejoicing. It has been customary in past years, I hear, to fulfil this duty by sending a secretary; but if the French Ambassador goes and the Spanish also, I will do the same, without any regard to my small fortune, which certainly has no need of further expenses on a journey of fourteen or fifteen days, which will cost much on all accounts. Meantime I will report what takes place in these few days, and if I leave before the ordinary post from Venice, I will have the despatches forwarded so that my service to your Excellencies shall in no way be curtailed.

London, 4th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 6. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

297. Francesco Donado, Governor of Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Announces the liberation of Zuanne Pasqualigo.

Zante, 6th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 8. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

298. Zuanne Pasqualigo to the Doge.

Gives an account of his captivity and liberation.

Zante, 8th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 10. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

299. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of Savoy, on orders from his Master, told the English Ambassador that a fresh Embassy would be sent to England and begged for the Ambassador's good offices.

Paris, 10th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 10. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

300. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Deputies of the Assembly at Saumur are not satisfied with the prolongation for five years of their tenure of the cautionary towns; they wished for ten years. The English Ambassador cannot blame them, though he maintains all he said to the Queen and the ministers about his Master's resolve for the quiet of France.

The Queen regrets that M. de Plessis, President of the Assembly, should have published a book against the spiritual authority of the apostolic see, and dedicated the Latin translation to the King of England and the French to the King of France, her son; but she is counselled to dissimulate.

Paris, 10 August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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1611.
Aug. 11.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

301. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

At nine o'clock on Saturday morning I was at Richmond, at the hour appointed by the Prince, of whom I had sought audience the day before. I had sought the same of the Princess, who lives at Kew, and she granted it to me after ten o'clock on the same morning. I found the Prince with the Duke of York, the Landgrave of Hesse, the Ambassador of Brandenburg, one of the Counts of Nassau, and a great number of lords and knights. His Highness dismounted, and I said that I had orders from your Excellencies to visit him occasionally in your name to assure him of your continued esteem. He replied briefly and graciously; said he considered it an honour to be visited in a place some miles away from the city; then taking me by the hand he said he must have me to dinner, and so a message was sent to the Princess to postpone my audience till after dinner first of all, and then till another day, as the Prince insisted that I should spend the whole of that day with him at the chase and in listening to his music, making clear in a thousand ways the regard he has for the Serene Republic. The remainder of the morning was spent by the Prince in tilting at the ring and in his *manege*, in which he made a fine show. The Landgrave and four or six other leading gentlemen ran a lance or two and served the Prince, who then waited for me at the foot of the stairs and engaged me in conversation for nearly an hour. He talked first of the various breeds of horses in different countries, and the different ways of breaking them, their suitability for war; he greatly extolled the barbs, of which for the most part he makes use. He remarked that in Italy we could have Turkish horses, of which he had heard that the best came from Macedonia; and this he said in such a way that I understood he would like to have some. He then went on to talk of Venetian maritime power and still more her land power. He greatly praised the Fort of Palma, declaring it to be the finest in the world as far as the art of fortification goes; he did not conceal the fact that he had the plan. He asked how many men were in it ordinarily, and how many it would require to defend it in time of war. He showed himself remarkably well informed as to the forces of your Excellencies. At dinner he praised your Excellencies. At his Highness' table no one had a seat except myself and the Landgrave; all the rest to the number of twenty or twenty-five sat at the second table. The Duke of York dined alone at his usual hour, as the Prince's dinner was very late. After dinner the Prince took me by the hand and made me listen to his music in various kinds of concert, and treated me with such honour and benignity that I cannot repeat it. At last when it seemed the right time, his Highness the Landgrave and I went in a carriage to the hunting ground. The chase lasted late. His Highness refused to be attended as far as Richmond, but sent the Landgrave and myself back to London.

I continue to make greater friendship with the Chamberlain and others whom I judge to have the confidence of his Highness. I am told by those who know him that his aims are very lofty.

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On Monday I waited on the Princess and spent half an hour in agreeable conversation.

London, 11th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 11. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

302. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

My letters from Zealand inform me that the Commissioners of the Archduke to the General Assembly of the States have passed through; and letters from the Hague announce that they have arrived there, and been immediately received in audience. The Admiral of Holland and the two other Ambassadors have left for Denmark to use every effort to secure peace between Denmark and Sweden. They are the bearers of urgent letters from the King of England; he says that if Denmark shows a disposition towards peace he will, by sending a special mission, demonstrate his desire for quiet in that quarter.

Six days ago an Englishman, Thomas Shirley, came here; he brings letters from the King of Persia and calls himself the Persian Ambassador. The King does not like this and makes a difficulty about receiving him as such, on the grounds that he is an English subject, and, what is more important, an outlaw; all the same it is thought that he will soon be admitted to his Majesty's presence.

The Envoy from Morocco is dealing on some commercial points with the Company of Merchants called the Barbary Merchants.

The Ambassador of Brandenburg has received a golden chain as a gift from the King and he returns to his Master; I do not know if he had any other mission than the one I wrote of, and that he has dealt with very briefly, owing to change which the succession of John George in Saxony may bring about. The Ambassador of Neuburg will also leave shortly.

The pirates who, as I wrote, were banded together to the number of eleven ships have captured several others and are grown very strong, and now number seventeen, as is reported by a ship from Guinea. She was attacked by them, but thanks to a favourable wind she escaped. We hear that these pirates are to go to the Mediterranean, and if they do it can not fail to cause great injury to the merchants. We do not know whether they are going to accept the pardon on the conditions on which it was obtained for them by the interested parties. As the King is displeased at the great plunder they have recently made off these islands, he is manning seven royal ships to chastise them. The King bears the cost, which will not, however, be very heavy, as the King pays only a quarter of the ordinary salaries, and all provisions are purchased at the lowest prices, being taken on compulsion from those who rent Crown lands; the hands receive sums on account, the full payment is made only on discharge, which is a great convenience and saving; and so one sees that in the hands of this King ever so little money is worth more than a great deal in the hands of others. On board the seven ships will be three thousand picked men. The ships of other sovereigns are manned by sailors and armed by soldiers raw to the sea, and no use for

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some little time; but his Majesty's ships carry soldier-sailors, all ready to fight, and all able to work the ships, who can face the storms of the sea and the attack of the foe with valour.

The Landgrave is to leave soon. To-day he will visit me. The King has given him many jewels, and the Prince has honoured him highly; he has been presented to the Princess as one of her suitors.*

The Prince, the Duke of York and other leading gentlemen will join the King on Monday. There are to be fireworks by way of rejoicing for the King's safety, of which that day is the anniversary. I too will set out in that direction. I am told that the Spanish Ambassador will be present if the French Ambassador is not. As I am on good terms with both and claim equality it matters not to me with which I find myself.

At this very moment I hear that a Cha'ush has arrived with letters from the Grand Turk. He will go to Salisbury. This is all I have of interest to report to your Serenity in this absence of the King, the Court, and the chief Ministers.

London, 11th August, 1611.

Postscript.—The Landgrave came to visit me and we exchanged compliments. To-day the Prince made him a present of four beautiful horses and some dogs, and the King gave him a jewel of beautiful and costly diamonds. The Landgrave tells me he has news that Smolensk is in the hands of Poland, who is coming to an accord with Sweden, all the difficulty turning on one single point. The Landgrave discussed the question whether the advance of Poland was for the good of Christendom in the face of the Turk. Talking of the new Duke of Saxony he said he would agree with Brandenburg far better than the late Duke. It was the Landgrave himself who persuaded Brandenburg to accept the Duke of Saxony as a joint "possessioner" in Cleves. The schemes of Poland are probably vast and will meet with no resistance from Muscovy; if Poland and Sweden came to terms the King of Denmark would be in a bad way.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 11. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

303. Francesco Donado, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Reports the liberation of Zuanne Pasqualigo and reports that Sig. Edward Coulston had made some small presents.

Zante, 11th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 14. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

304. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Count Ruffia has not left yet for England, and indeed the idea of this mission seems to be growing cold.

Turin, 14th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., July 15, 1611. "The Landgrave of Hesse has been to woo Lady Elizabeth."

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1611.
Aug. 17.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

305. PIERO PRIULI, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Don Pedro di Toledo succeeded in closing the entrance to the harbour of Ma'amura, in spite of the Moors. He sank eight ships in the mouth of the harbour. There are some who thought it would have been better policy to have seized and fortified that port; it seems that Don Pedro himself leaned to that view.

I hear that the Dutch design to seize Gibraltar. The Council of War are discussing its fortification.

Madrid, 17th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 17.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

306. PIERO PRIULI, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Although the English Ambassador declares very positively that he has no orders to negotiate a marriage between these *Princes*, yet he has let it be understood by the Duke of Lerma that if his Majesty had an idea *to bind himself in relationship with England*, the King would lend a willing ear. All the same it is thought that *the English are raising the topic more with a view to disturbing the negotiations with France than for any other purpose.*

Madrid, 17th August, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Aug. 20.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

307. SIMON CONTARINI, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The dragoman, Brutti, has returned from Chios, having brought five Venetians and one Englishman, who was a gunner on board the "Bonera," all slaves; the Capudan Pasha took these from Gioffer the Genoese, and wants to keep the gunner, promising to hand him over to me on his return. *All the captains of the fleet opposed the restitution of the slaves.*

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 20th August, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Aug. 20.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

308. GIACOMO VENDRAMIN, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the DOGE and SENATE.

From Leghorn we hear that some Flemish pirates have captured two galleons belonging to the English captains at Leghorn; they were coming from Ma'amura, where the others are.

Florence, 20th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 25.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

309. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Envoy of the Duke of Mantua has left. He told me, when visiting me, that very likely his Master in the spring of next year, would go to France and England and return by way of Flanders.

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As I wrote to your Excellencies, I left for Salisbury on the 12th; I arrived on the 15th about midday, having travelled far that morning. I was met fifteen miles out by the royal carriages. Lodgings were assigned me and a gentleman was there to receive me. Then came the Viscount Cranborne with many royal carriages, on the King's express orders to conduct me to audience. I found his Majesty at the entrance to the chamber, surrounded by many great nobles. I presented compliments, and wished the King many more prosperous and happy returns of the day. The King embraced me closely, and said the Republic who had the first place in his affections did well to recognise the occasion. Then he took me by the hand and gaily led the way to the table, which was already spread with viands; the dinner lasted little less than two hours. The King uncovered and, standing up, drank to the prosperity of your Excellencies, of whom he spoke in gracious terms. He then invited me to drink to the health of the Viscount Haddington, who on that day had saved his life miraculously. The topics of conversation at dinner were various; I will mention only the more essential. First, about France, there were some signs not quite satisfactory, for the Queen had ordered the Huguenot Assembly to separate before it had received an answer to its demands; the Assembly replied by citing decrees and constitutions of the Kingdom which permit Assemblies to continue united until full reply has been returned; and so the royal order remained inefficacious. He added that the protection extended to the Duke of Sully by the Assembly was distasteful to the Queen, but the Deputies had cited precedents. The Marshal de Bouillon is ill; and the decree of Parliament against Bellarmin's book has finally taken effect. After dinner the King asked me if I had heard that the King of Spain had offered his forces to the Queen of France for employment against the Huguenots. He dwelt on the ill effects such an offer must produce upon the Assembly, as it has been published in various places. He told me he had no news of the Ambassador of Savoy, nor could he understand why the Ambassador had sent one of his suite here with letters; anyway the King declared that he cared little one way or another, and added that the French Ambassador, who did not like this negotiation, asserted that the Savoyard would not arrive. All this the King said briefly while the room was full of people. In the same way and place the Earl of Salisbury said much the same to me.

The Prince gave me to understand that he would be glad if I would pass the rest of the day with him and in the evening sup with him, which I did. The day following I set out to return to London, which I reached on the third day.

Lord Salisbury is expected back to-day, and next week the Queen will be at Hampton Court, and almost at the same time the King will be at Windsor.

London, 25th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

310. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador informed me that the Queen has consented to demands of the Assembly, one may say absolutely, so

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there is no possible ground for doubt, and all is breathing peace and tranquillity.

My letters from the Hague tell me that a perpetual peace has been proposed, not to the General Assembly, but privately to Barneveldt and d'Aerssens. Count Maurice opposes, and the States show little inclination. The French Ambassador tells me that the Spaniards, seeing the difficulty, are inclined to send to France and to England to beg that special Commissioners may be sent to support the negotiations for peace, as was done in the case of the truce.

The Cha'ush went to Court some days ago; I have not had time to find out what he brings.

The pirates being strengthened by their new plunder have retired to Ireland and fortified themselves there with the consent of the Viceroy until they shall learn the King's decision as to the pardon which they besought, and which was obtained by the leading merchants. They are anxiously waiting to hear whether the pirates have accepted. It is a point that is of great moment to this market.

There are several despatches from Sweden, announcing that the Danes have been surrounded and compelled to abandon the siege of the fort near Kalmar. In their retreat they encountered the mass of the Swedish Army, and suffered severely. Other letters say that the King of Sweden has retired to Stockholm, the capital, leaving the command to his son and son-in-law; they have attacked and taken a small town, in which they found the Danish military chest. We expect details, but the facts are so. The Ambassadors of the States are far on their road, and it is thought they may find it more easy now to bring about an accord.

To-day have arrived letters from the Captain* who, in the King's name, conveyed the pardon to the pirates who are banded together in Ireland. The pirates have readily agreed to surrender the first ship they took on this expedition, which is a Ragusan with a cargo of four hundred thousand crowns, and another Spaniard; the interested parties to be free to order that the said ships return to London or continue their jonrney. Other ships are also claimed and if they are not surrendered the pardon lapses.

The Envoy from Morocco will soon take his leave, as will the Ambassadors of Brandenburg and Neuburg. The Morocco Envoy will take some gun founders and he leaves very well satisfied.

The King of Spain by means of gifts hopes to secure election as King of the Romans. Here there is sure news that the Protestant Electors in particular will not hear it mentioned.

There is a report that the Spanish have seized the port of Ma'amura (*Mamola*) with a view to fortifying it and so to command the Straits.

London, 25th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 27. Collegio, Secreta, Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

311. The Nuncio came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

Some months ago a Fra Vicenzo of Madalona, of the Minorities of San Francesco in Pera, apostasized and became a Calvinist. As far as I understand, the Baillo sent him on board the galleys to Candia. They have heard of this in Rome and now instruct me to

* Captain Roger Myddleton; *see* Cal. S.P. Ireland, Aug. 23, 1611, Myddleton to Salisbury

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beg that this friar be brought from Candia and put on his trial by the Inquisition with the intervention of the Assessors. If he continues in his apostasy, he will be punished as he deserves; if he purge himself he will be sent back to the galleys.

The Doge replied that he did not clearly recall the case, but if his memory served him the friar was in the English Ambassador's house and lived as his dependant; as such he was consigned by the English Ambassador to the Baillo, it is necessary to wait and see upon what conditions. Any way the friar must be a villain. After consulting the despatches, a reply would be given on another occasion.

The Nuncio said that though the friar lived in the English Embassy he was a native of Madalona; and he handed in a memorandum.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

312. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

After Don Pedro di Toledo had blocked the mouth of the Port of Ma'amura, he put out to cruise. He fell in with two great ships, pirates, well armed; and attacked with only three galleys. After fighting for a while at a distance, he closed and boarded, compelling one, which was Turkish, to surrender; while the English, who manned the other, being wont to seek a voluntary death rather than yield, blew up their ship when they saw resistance useless. The pirates in the English Channel have captured two very rich vessels from London, one bound for Syria, the other for Spain. The booty is put at 1,500,000 crowns' value.

Madrid, 28th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 28. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

313. Francesco Donado, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

States that Edward Coulston, for the liberation of Zuanne Pasqualigo, disbursed in journeys and presents, twenty sequins.

Zante, 28th August, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 30. Minutes of the Senate, Constantinople. Venetian Archives.

314. Instructions to Christoforo Valier, Ambassador Elect to Constantinople.

You are aware of the damage wrought by pirates, chiefly owing to the fact that they are admitted and protected by the Turkish officers at Durazzo, Valona and Castelnuovo, who share the booty; you are to protest that such conduct contravenes the treaty of peace. English pirates also find shelter at Modon, at Tunis and at Biserta.

Ayes	131.
Noes	1.
Neutrals	4.

[*Italian.*]

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Sept. 2.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

315. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

This day week the Earl of Salisbury returned to London. I sent to pay my respects and to say I would be glad to call on him. He replied that he did desire to see me. The following day I went, and he, without letting me say a word, began at once to tell me that the King had frequently expressed his great affection for your Excellencies, and that both he and the Prince had been pleased by my visit to Salisbury. He was much gratified to learn from his Ambassador's despatches the nature of your Excellencies' reply in the matter of Seymour. On his return the King will address letters of thanks in his own hand. I asked what news he had of Seymour, and he replied that he was still at Liege, and that he might possibly be pardoned by the King if he made a full and humble submission. The King had not demanded Seymour's surrender from him who governs the place where Seymour is, because his Majesty did not desire to place himself under obligation to any but your Serenity and such friends as he was already bound to.

He added that the Emperor and Mathias, owing to the offices of the Spanish Ambassador, were now in complete accord; that Brandenburg and Neuburg were not prepared to admit the new Duke of Saxony to the "possession" of Cleves; that the Dutch were beginning to disarm, so as to relieve themselves of the expenses of keeping up above thirty thousand men, between horse, foot, and the English companies. They are going to hold a General Assembly at the end of this month, or a little later. On the subject of the marriage of the Infanta of Spain to the Prince of Wales, I gather that Lerma called on the English Ambassador and gave him to understand that only the difficulty of conscience remains, and that they had written to Rome to find some way of escape and to get dispensation.

As soon as the King goes to Windsor I will carry out your Serenity's orders about Seymour.

London, 2nd September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 2.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

316. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The day before yesterday there arrived one of the Danish Councillors. He is lodged at the royal charges. He comes in the quality of Ambassador. To-day he has been to visit Lord Salisbury. To-morrow he is going to the Queen at Oatlands, near Hampton Court. He will then wait on the King, when he knows where he can surely find his Majesty—that will be soon. He confirms the capture by the King of Sweden of a small town called Christianopolis. A large quantity of money was found in it, as well as munitions of war, stored there by the King of Denmark. It is reported that the Danes have received a check that will compel them to take the offensive, and in a bloody battle the Swedes were routed and retired under cover of night, so that the King of Denmark took possession of the fort that harassed him, and found that its garrison were in want of

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everything. This Ambassador, who is called Jonas Carisius,* has come to beg for aid, as the King, his Master, finds himself reduced to such a small number of men. The Dutch Ambassadors were in the camp of the King of Denmark shortly before the capture of the fort, and the King would not give them audience till that had taken place.

The Morocco Minister has had a secret audience with the Earl of Salisbury, and has left to return to his Master. He has taken with him some gun founders and a certain amount of metal. He left quite content, and hopes to be sent back again soon.

While waiting the reply of the pirates fortified in Ireland, as to whether they would or would not accept the pardon on the conditions proposed to them, comes news that one of them has fled, taking with him one of the richest of the ships which had recently been captured. The matter is of great moment; but no one knows anything for certain. Pindar, who has lately returned from the Consulate in Syria, tells me that when the King comes back the merchants of London intend to make proposals to him for the punishment of piracy. They will offer to contribute towards the cost, in the hope of crushing the pirates, but Pindar thinks the task difficult. He continues in his belief that the best plan is to take care for the future to send out the merchantmen well escorted; and if that entails diminished profits for the merchants and considerable outlay for the King, just to bear it as the lesser of two evils. He remarked there were difficulties in the way of uniting sovreigns for the suppression of piracy; for some are not displeased that pirates exist and are glad to see certain markets harassed. The number of pirates is great, and there might be diversity of opinion as to who should be declared a pirate—for there are those that are winked at, those who are supported, and worse still, under the cloak of religion, the number of the Grand Turk's subjects is increased and his military discipline maintained, whereas it would have almost disappeared, to the great benefit of Christendom and safety of your Excellencies. Pindar is a person of growing importance and very dear to Lord Salisbury, with whom he has long interviews, in which, as I hear from himself and others, he has advanced various views of the Consul Sagredo, which are highly appreciated by Lord Salisbury. The election to the post of Ambassador at Constantinople will soon take place, and it is thought certain that the choice will fall on Pindar, who, owing to his peculiar devotion to your Excellencies and his understanding with the Consul Sagredo, professes himself almost as much bound to your Serenity's interests as to those of the King himself. (*Mi ha detto il Sig^r. Pinder, ritornato dal consolato di Soria, che al ritorno del Rè pensano i Mercanti di questa Piazza far diverse proposte a sua Maestà per il castigo dei Corsari, offerendosi essi anco di esser a parte della spesa, per abassarli, se si può, ch'egli stima però difficilissimo, et continua nella sua credenza che il vero modo sia remediare all'avvenire con mandar le navi ben accompagnate, et se per qualche tempo faranno i Mercanti guadagno molto minore et sostenirà il Rè qualche spesa, soportarla per*

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1611-1618. "The King would prefer Dr. Jonas not coming to Court till he reaches Farnham or Oatlands."

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manco male. Ha ponderato che nell' unire de' Principi per estirpar Corsari si potrebbe trovar delle difficoltà, perchè ad alcuno non dispiace, forse, che vi siano, et che resti qualche Piazza, di quando in quando, travagliata; non tacendo che sono molti i Corsari et vi sarebbe per avventura diversità di parere nel dichiarvi quali dovessero intendersi tali, perchè ne sono de tollerati, de spalleggiati, et peggio sotto pretesto di religione, che acresce il numero di quelli che sono sudditi del Gran Signore, et tien viva, forse a bell' arte, la disciplina militare, ove sarebbe già quasi del tutto estinta con notabil beneficio della Christianità et sicurità particolare delle S^rie V^re Ecc^me. Riesce questo soggetto qui sempre di maggior stima, et caro al S^r. Conte, con il quale si è trovato più volte in lunghi ragionamenti, et, come ho inteso da lui et da altri, ragionando del rimedio de Corsari et per quello che apartiene al comercio di Levante ha ponderato diversi concetti del Sig^r. Console Sagredo stimati molto da esso Sig^r. Conte.

Tra pochi giorni si farà elettione di ambasciatore a Costantinopoli che si crede certo debbi cadere nella persona di esso Pinder, che per la sua particolar devotione verso le Excellenze Vostre et per l' intelligenze che ha passato con esso Sig^r. Sagredo, professa dover esser quasi altretanto interessato nel servitio delle Serenità Vostra quanto dell' istessa Maestà sua.)

London, 2nd September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 3. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

317. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday last there died in this city Don Emmanuell, son of the late Don Antonio of Portugal. He was living in the house of a citizen, and his Highness assigned him eight crowns a day for all his expenses. He wished to be buried in the Church of San Francesco at Fortress of San Miniato, near the tomb of a Cardinal who, they say, belonged to the House of Portugal.

An Englishman named Gifford has arrived at Leghorn on board a most beautiful ship, fully armed and with one hundred and eighty men. He says he has orders from the King of England to engage the English pirates of Ma'amurra. He ordered the English pirates in Leghorn to clear out, but he will not be obeyed nor do they know quite what to think of him.

Florence, 3rd September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 3. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

318. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador at Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Polish Ambassador from the King of Hungary complains of the presence of the Prince of Moldavia in the house of the English Ambassador.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 3rd September, 1611.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

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Sept. 5.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

319. The SECRETARY to the ENGLISH AMBASSADOR came to the CABINET and said:—

The Ambassador, my master, has in the service of his house Signor Giacomo Castelvetro; although he does not live in the house he is bound to the Ambassador's service by written contract. Now it happens that yesterday morning the said Castelvetro was imprisoned by the Inquisition. His Excellency is persuaded that Castelvetro cannot have been recognized as his servant; and has sent me here to inform your Serenity and to beg you to order his release, so that the rumour may not spread to the effect that a servant of his Excellency's household is kept prisoner, and if Castelvetro is really guilty the Ambassador pledges himself to produce the man at a sign from your Serenity. The Doge said: "We regret the accident; but on this point we must hear what the officers of the Inquisition have to say; we will summon them and then take the appropriate steps." The Secretary made a reverence and retired.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 7.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

320. ZORZI GIUSTINIAN, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Reports the breaking up of the Huguenot Assembly at Saumur on the repeated orders of the Queen. Sully charged with inciting to disobedience.

Paris, 7th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 8.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

321. PIERO PRIULI, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The pirates still infest the seas. The English pirates have withdrawn to Ireland and are suing for pardon. They say that the works carried out to block the port of Ma'amurra are not very well done, as the ships have been sunk in the wrong place, and many more will be required, as the mouth of the harbour is far wider than it appeared on the plans.

The English Ambassador, apropos to the French match, told the Imperial Ambassador that he looked for little result from his negotiations, as the French negotiations were too far advanced.

Madrid, 8th September, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Sept. 9.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

322. The Nuncio came to the Cabinet and said that some days ago he had mentioned the case of the apostate Friar; he now repeated the demand that he should be brought to Venice, tried and sent back to the galleys. The Friar was ready to recant and sought absolution; the Nuncio had the absolution ready.

Answer was made that orders had already been sent to the Governor of Candia to arrest the Friar.

[*Italian.*]

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1611.
Sept. 9.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

323. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

It is many days now that I have not sought audience, for it seems to me that without a reason I should not do so, and that to come merely for the purpose of making speeches or retailing gossip is a windy vanity. But to-day I am here for a real reason, and a reason by no means desired on my part. On Tuesday last the officers of the Inquisition arrested one of my servants, called Giacomo Castelvetro, who teaches Italian to my household. As soon as I heard of this I sent my Secretary to your Serenity to report the fact and to beg you as a favour to order his liberation, as he is a member of my household, and in conformity with the good understanding between this Republic and my Sovreign I received through my Secretary a courteous and gracious reply, and all these days I have been waiting to see the result. I thought of subordinating my desire in a matter that touches me so closely to your Serenity's convenience; but the danger to his life Castelvetro runs and the urgency of applying a remedy have compelled me to postpone no longer; for the fact is that Castelvetro is not only an old but also a sick and feeble man, and even in repose and comfort does not promise more than a couple of years of life, and your Serenity may rest assured that in prison, with his mind agitated, he will not live two weeks. I am bound to interest myself in the matter, which affects the life of one of my servants, who has done nothing amiss so far as I am aware, and which touches the honour of my house, the liberty which all enjoy in this most noble city, and the satisfaction of the King my Master, who is so closely bound in love to this Republic. As for Castelvetro, if he stays in prison he will certainly die, and that soon. I am attached to him, for although of different religion he renders me the service of instructing my household in the Italian tongue. Although he was not lodged in my house, on account of my large suite and small accommodation, I had given him a certificate in writing by which all might know that he was in my service. I have only four Italians in my service, my Secretary (Gregorio Monti), Castelvetro and the two gondoliers; all four sleep out of the house; others have asked to be taken into my service on a similar certificate, but I have always refused. I cannot see what cause for scandal Castelvetro himself can have given, for I have always known him for a discreet person. Nay, frequently when he has found himself in the Embassy at our usual hour of prayer to the living God and His glorious Son, Jesus Christ the Crucified, Castelvetro always retired; moreover, I cannot understand how fasting on the vigils of feast days can be compatible with finding oneself in the prisons of the Inquisition. But beyond the peculiar interests of Castelvetro, the honour of the Embassy is concerned; it is evident that his offence cannot be of great moment, for the order for his arrest was issued in January, and eight months have passed before it was put in execution; and they waited until Castelvetro had been made one of my servants, so it is clear that the intention was to offend the dignity of my Master's Envoy. Further still, the reputation of Venice for freedom is affected, a reputation which is world-wide and has secured for the place the title of microcosmos rather than city;

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so much so that some thirty Englishmen who were in Siena, and of whom one was arrested, immediately left Siena and came to Venice on the strength of her fame as a free city. Some of the English who are in Padua, and who are on the point of returning home, have asked me about this affair, and may perhaps carry to his Majesty a report that the Venetian freedom does not exist, and that the house of his Ambassador is neither respected nor held in any account. Yet my household has always paid the highest respect to the law and never given the smallest ground for scandal. I trust that consideration will also be shown for his Majesty's satisfaction; all the same he cannot fail to feel annoyed that one of the household of his Ambassador has not only been arrested by, but even tried before, the representative of another power, his open enemy, whereas he has always caused the dependents of your Serenity's Ambassadors to be respected, and has even, to gratify them, ordered the release of criminals already condemned. I therefore humbly beseech you in a matter that affects a poor old man, the honour of my house, the fair name of this city, my own liberty and the satisfaction of the King my Master, to set Castelvetro at liberty, and I promise myself this from your known benignity.

The Doge replied that the Ambassador was always welcome whenever he chose to seek audience. As to Castelvetro, they had not yet had time to take full information, owing to the procession of the two last mornings and the pains in his legs, which had prevented him from coming to the Cabinet. It would be taken as soon as possible, so as to enable them to make a proper reply. The Ambassador may rest assured of the regard in which he is held. The Ambassador's Secretary, in begging for Castelvetro's liberation, had promised that if he had done anything amiss the Ambassador would hold him at the disposal of the Magistrates.

The Ambassador said that he was bound to protect his suite, but he could never cover delinquents. If there was aught amiss he would not protect Castelvetro, he would not keep him in his house, nor would he send him to England; he would be the first to say "let him be punished"; let them send him out of the city; and so he would act not only in this man's case but in the case of all others of his household who should do aught amiss.

The Doge promised to deal with the affair as soon as possible; the matter must be brought before the Senate.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 9
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

324. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The rumour, which has been going about for some days, that the Spanish have captured the port of Ma'amurra (*Mamola*), in Africa, came from the house of the Spanish Ambassador. He paid me a visit three days ago, and told me that the fleet of his Master had sunk three ships at the mouth of that port, and as the pirates could no longer use it, and as El Arisch was in the hands of his Catholic Majesty, it is to be hoped that the corsairs' nest is destroyed. He added that he understood that the Grand Duke was offering free quarters at Leghorn to these people and tempting them by promises

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of good treatment. This, he said, looking hard at me, and implying that he thought this might produce a bad effect and increase the number of the pirates. I listened and applauded his wisdom. I enquired if the Ma'amura were entirely captured; he said he had no details, but it must be so; the entry can easily be blocked by two forts; he explained the nature of the place, which he had visited on other occasions. He went on to tell me that the King of Morocco had sent one of his men to Constantinople to ask for money and men; and he expressed a doubt whether the King was absolutely master, as he was in continual alarm about Abdullah.

The Ambassador then proceeded to blame the conduct of the Dutch, who, while negotiating for a perpetual peace, continued to fit out armed vessels to be sent to the Filippines to avenge alleged injuries. The King of Spain will be forced to take up arms again. What I hear from the Hague is that they have fitted out two great vessels and ten smaller ones, which are to go to the Indies and to punish the Spanish for injuries inflicted on Dutch subjects and on their ally the King of Ternate, now that Rodenberg's mission to Spain has failed.

I understand that the Assembly of the States was dissolved owing to the illness of Barneveldt and the schemes of Count Maurice, who desired to cut off the negotiations for a perpetual peace.

Two of the ships that went to Florida came back four days ago. They report a prosperous voyage but hostility from the Indians, and declare that larger forces are needed to plant a colony. They intend to despatch more vessels with men and arms. The merchants of the East India Company have placed on the stocks (*hanno posto a barco*) four great galleons with a view to sending them to the Indies. They will take in cargoes of spices at Sumatra and Java.

The Persian Ambassador is staying a few miles off waiting the King's return, when he has sure hopes of being received in audience.

Last week the Queen finished her Progress at Oatlands, where the Ambassadors sent to visit her. The Prince is at a palace* near Oxford, recently given to him by the King. On Tuesday or Wednesday the King will be at Windsor.

London, 9th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

325. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Six days ago Lord Salisbury had letters from the English Ambassador in Spain, and the following day he told the Ambassador of the Dutch that the match between France and Spain was definitely concluded. Salisbury sent to congratulate the French Ambassador, who confirmed the negotiation and the near approach of the alliance, but said it was not yet absolutely concluded. The French Ambassador discusses the question of the match. The marriage of the

* Woodstock. *See* Birch, "Life of Prince Henry," *p.* 331.

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Princess to the Palatine is talked of, while the Savoyard match is almost dead. The Duke of Neuburg is expected from day to day. He is coming to set out his claims against the Duke of Deuxponts in the administration of the Palatinate. An ambassador is expected from Saxony to announce the succession and possibly to negotiate about the election of the King of the Romans. The Councillor-Ambassador of Denmark (Carisius) has gone to the Queen. The King of Denmark has quite other ideas than those of peace. The Cha'ush* has brought a letter from the Grand Turk to the King.

London, 9th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 10. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

326. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Gifford, the Englishman about whom I wrote, turns out to be a villainous pirate; his papers are forgeries. He had put into Leghorn to spy the sailing of other vessels and then to put out and attack them.

Florence, 10th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 10. Senato, Secreta. Deliberazioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

327. Seeing that Giacomo Castelvetro, one of the English Ambassador's household, has been arrested by the Inquisition, and at the moment was not recognised as such because he was not living in the Embassy; and whereas it is proper, in respect of the regard which is universally shown to the houses and suites of ambassadors, and also in obedience to the ordinary law of nations, that, now that Castelvetro is recognised as one of the said Ambassador's suite, he should be set at liberty:

Motion is made that the Three Assessors to the Holy Office shall remove Castelvetro from our prison and convey him to the Embassy as being one of the Ambassador's suite;

Further, that a secretary of this Council shall this evening give notice to the Ambassador of this resolution, and shall add that as this has been done especially to please the Ambassador, we trust to his great prudence to cause the said Castelvetro to leave our City and State as soon as possible, and not to return without our leave;

Further, that when the Ambassador comes to the Cabinet his Serenity shall, with his wonted prudence, while praising the Ambassador's circumspection in this matter, inform him that it is the intention of both the King and of the Republic that his Lordship should walk warily in this direction, so as to avoid the occurrence of the inconveniences which may arise about this subject.

Ayes 108.
Noes 13.
Neutrals 41.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Cal. S. P. Dom., Oct. 13. "Warrant to pay £30 each to two chiauses or messengers from the Turkish Court."

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1611.
Sept. 10.
Senato, Secreta. Deliberazioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

328. To the Ambassador in Rome.

A few days ago Giacomo Castelvetro was arrested by the Inquisition. After the event the Secretary of the English Ambassador, not the Ambassador himself, came to claim his liberation, assuring us that Castelvetro was a dependent and servant at the Embassy, as you will see from the copy of the minutes of his audience. We therefore came to the resolution which we enclose. We think it well that you should be fully informed, so that should any reference be made to the subject you can make your answers conform to our resolutions. We were all the more induced to take this step seeing that our Ambassadors in England have done much for the Catholic religion, and have received many favours from his Majesty in this matter, securing the liberation of various persons and particularly priests, even though condemned and sentenced. We intend also to help the Catholic religion by insisting that Castelvetro shall not remain in the City or the State.

That the above be communicated to the Three Assessors in case they should be spoken to on the matter.

Ayes 108.
Noes 13.
Neutrals 41.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 11.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives. Expulsis Papalistis.

329. I, Secretary Zon, went to the house of the English Ambassador to carry out the public orders. I found that his Excellency had gone out for a walk, though the hour was late. Such, his domestics informed me, is his usual custom after supper every day to go and take a little air. They went at once to look for him, and his Excellency returned and received me with every sign of courtesy. I said that I had come to his Excellency on the orders of your Serenity to tell him that, as a special favour to him, the Senate had resolved to release Castelvetro from prison, as requested, and the man would presently be brought to the Embassy, as a further proof of the constant desire to gratify the Ambassador in all things, as he would himself learn from your Serenity's lips. I added that it was the intention of the Republic that Castelvetro should—for those reasons which his Excellency would easily understand—at once leave the City and the State, not to return without express permission.

The Ambassador paid close attention, and with a joyful countenance he said that he returned humble thanks to your Serenity for the favour, which he was aware was very great in view of the regulations and stringent orders of the Government in certain cases. As to telling Castelvetro to leave, his Excellency said that he would at once recall the patent of protection, and he thought that would be enough to make Castelvetro understand that he could no longer stay safely in Venice. Thereupon I, perceiving that he had not understood or did not wish to understand this point, repeated more clearly the resolution of the Government, that his Excellency should cause Castelvetro to leave the City and the State and that he should not return without express permission.

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His Excellency promptly replied that he could not be a judge in this matter. Judgement he left to your Serenity, with whom he would act in accord. He pointed out that he neither could nor ought to do this in less than three or four days. I said nothing further than to insist on what was the Government's resolve. After exchanging some compliments, and in spite of my protests, he accompanied me to the land entrance and I took my leave.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 12. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives. Expulsis Papalistis.

330. The Secretary of the English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

Returns the Ambassador's thanks for the promptitude with which Castelvetro's affair has been settled. These thanks he will repeat in person on the first occasion. The Ambassador will cause Castelvetro to leave both the City and the State as soon as he is ready for the journey.

The Doge replied that this had been done to gratify the Ambassador, and that it would be as well that he should cause Castelvetro to leave at once to avoid running into fresh trouble now that he was deprived of the patent and the protection of the Ambassador; and Castelvetro had better take care on his journey not to pass through States where he might receive injury. The Ambassador can easily understand that he should exercise caution in granting patents of protection to persons not residing in his house, so as to avoid occurrences little pleasing either to him or to the Republic. The Doge understood that although Castelvetro was in the Ambassador's service he also went to give lessons in other houses; and it would be as well to avoid all cause for rumours in this matter of religion. The Secretary is to greet the Ambassador and assure him of the regard in which he is held.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 13. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives. Expulsis Papalistis.

331. All the Members of the Holy Office appeared in the Cabinet and spoke as follows:

After the despatch of our ordinary business this morning the Nuncio said there was a rumour that, on the orders of the Senate, Castelvetro had been taken out of prison. As such rumours frequently proved baseless he asked to be told how matters really stood. We, in accordance with the resolution of the Senate, told him the English Ambassador having declared this man to be his servant it was impossible to do less than to release him; but Castelvetro was under orders to leave the City and the State. The Senate had been induced to come to this resolution all the more readily in that his Majesty the King of England had set at liberty Catholics on the prayer of the Venetian Ambassador, even though they were not members of his suite, aye, and even priests, condemned and sentenced. The Senate believed that its action would be of use to the Catholic religion in those parts. We added that we considered it necessary in conformity to the resolution of the Senate. The Nuncio said he regretted the event, for at Rome they would resent it and discuss it. He had made no report to Rome about it because

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he did not believe it was true; he only reported that the English Ambassador had had audience on the subject. As to Castelvetro being in the service of the Ambassador, the Nuncio was aware that he frequented the house occasionally, but the attestation of service was given after the arrest. The Patriarch said that if Castelvetro was to leave the City all would be well; the Inquisitor also repeated this remark. We declared that not only would Castelvetro leave the City but also the State. Both the Patriarch and the Inquisitor said that all would be well; the Nuncio repeated that the episode would be displeasing at Rome.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 15. Senato, Secreta. Deliberazioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

332. To the Ambassador in England.

Giacomo Castelvetro was arrested by the Inquisition some days ago. After the event there came to us first the Secretary of the English Ambassador and then the Ambassador himself, assuring us that this man was a member of the Ambassador's household and making strong representations for his liberation, as you will see from the enclosed copy. We, who omit no opportunity to show our good will towards his Majesty, and our liking for the Ambassador as his Envoy, took the resolution of which we enclose a copy. For your information we enclose copies of all that passed, so that should his Majesty or other persons speak to you on the point you may answer in that sense and form that you may think desirable for the demonstration of our sincere regard for his Majesty.

Ayes 158.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

333. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

M. de Sancy, the French Ambassador, arrived here two days ago.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 15th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

334. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Gives a full account of the negotiations in Spain for the marriage of the Prince of Wales. The despatch of July 23rd from Spain contained the proposals placed before his Catholic Majesty by the Ambassador. The King of Spain had a long conversation with the Ambassador and showed that he liked the idea, and so did the Duke of Lerma, who pointed out that no other difficulty remained but that of religion, and said that they would write to Rome to find a means of settling it, and for a dispensation. Thereupon orders were at once sent to the Ambassador to say that the Infanta would have free exercise of the Catholic religion here in her rooms in the Palace both for herself and her suite. This the Ambassador did and waited

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a reply concluding the match; the Duke told him that everything was satisfactory and it only remained to know which Infanta the Ambassador was referring to. The Ambassador said "the eldest"; whereupon the Duke drew back and said that the eldest Infanta was already destined for the King of France, that he was sorry negotiations had gone so far, but there were other princesses born of the same father and mother as charming and as beloved as the eldest, about whom they might treat. The Ambassador, on this, despatched the Secretary, whom the Ambassador Cornwallis had left at the Spanish Court. All this I had from the lips of Lord Salisbury, who showed great resentment at this answer, and said that everyone knew it was ridiculous to talk of marriage with the other Princesses, who were little girls of five or six, while the Prince was eighteen, nor was there time to wait for them. I know from another source that at the same time that the Duke made this answer to the Ambassador he communicated it to the Secretary of the Spanish Ambassador here and ordered him to set out at once, so as to be here when the answer arrived, but he could not make such diligence as to be here in eleven days, and duly arrived on Saturday late. On Monday he came to see me, nor did he deny what I have written. On Saturday the French Ambassador had a long interview with Lord Salisbury; he availed himself of the events in Spain, touching on those points in a way he thought agreeable to the Earl. He then said that their most Christian Majesties were sending a large sum of money to pay the Scottish guard and to make some other presents. He went on to touch on the question of marriage. This I know for certain, though the Ambassador denies it; finally he mentioned the Huguenot Assembly. Savoy was spoken of, and he said that a Savoyard Ambassador would arrive, but Lord Salisbury did not believe it. On Sunday the Spanish Ambassador* had an interview of four hours with Lord Salisbury, and used every art he possessed to excuse his Master and himself. First he said that for two years he and his predecessor, Don Pedro Zuñiga, had endeavoured to induce them to open negotiations in Spain from this quarter; this had been so long delayed that it came too late; the Queen of France, in the uncertain state of her affairs, had pushed forward the match between the King, her son, and the Infanta. The King his Master could not withstand so honourable a wish. He added that the King of Spain could not have shown greater regard for the King of England than he has done by keeping the English Ambassador with him in so long a conversation quite out of the ordinary. There were other princesses for the Prince to marry, and so the three greatest monarchs of the world would be strictly bound together by ties of blood. He went on to praise England, the King, and him who governs the country. Lord Salisbury did not conceal his feelings, and declared that in discussing the question he had always intended the eldest Princess; the others were not of a suitable age; that being in treaty with this Crown Spain should not have opened negotiations with another; and if they had found it to their advantage to conclude a marriage with another power the Ambassador should have told them frankly, and not kept urging

* The Lieger, Don Alonzo de Velasco.

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them, as he had done, to make an offer and so to meet with a refusal. In a few days the King himself would be here and would give the answer that his dignity required. I am told the King resents the Spanish reply, and so, I suppose, does the Queen.

London, 15th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

335. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Spanish Ambassador received a courier four days ago. He brought orders that the Ambassador was to put himself in communication with the Spanish Ambassador in Prague, who had orders to support Mathias, since it was impossible to extract from his Imperial Majesty a single promise or word that was kept or that produced effect. On the arrival of the Saxon Ambassador and of the Duke of Neuburg, who is annoyed at the Emperor on account of the sentence in favour of Deuxponts about the administration of the Palatinate, the affairs of Germany will be discussed as far as they concern the election of the King of the Romans, the matter of Cleves, the Federates and such points. They desire to discover some accommodation of the quarrel between Denmark and Sweden, which is growing more and more inflamed.

About the pirates who supplicated pardon there is no news save that they have left Ireland. It is not known whether they intend to go elsewhere or, as is most likely, whether, after a short time at sea, they will return to Ireland; they give as the reason for this conduct the delay in receiving the pardon and the arming of the royal galleons, perhaps, with a view to chastising them more easily as they would be caught unprepared. The merchants who are interested have determined to fit out one ship to help in the search for the pirates, who are waiting the pardon, a copy of which will be sent along with this ship. The rumours that are flying about that the pirates may be invited and tempted to Leghorn by promises of safety have induced the merchants to beg the King to write on the subject to the Grand Duke of Tuscany; this he did ten days ago requesting the Grand Duke to arrest the pirates, if they came to Leghorn, and to seize ten vessels which they had stolen from his Majesty's subjects.

The Queen is at Oatlands, where the King will join her on Saturday. On Sunday they will go to Hampton Court, where the Prince is, and on Monday they will all move to Theobalds, where his Majesty will receive all the Ambassadors. Those of France, Denmark and Persia have letters to present from their Sovereigns; the Cha'ush desires an answer to the letter from the Grand Signor; the Ambassador of the United Provinces has business to transact and the Spanish Ambassador will, perhaps, repeat what he recently said to Lord Salisbury. I will be received among the first and will carry out my instructions. The King is much pleased by your Serenity's readiness in the affair of Seymour. He will say so through his Ambassador and also by autograph letter.

London, 15th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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Sept. 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

336. Zorzi Guistinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

A few days ago du Plessis Morny printed at Saumur a book called "The Progress of Papal Iniquity."* This came to the Nuncio's ears, and he made representations to the Ministers and to the Queen for the suppression of the book. This was done, and the order was published by the Civil Lieutenant-Governor. But after what happened in Rome about the house of the Cardinal de Joyeuse,† which has caused great offence here, Parliament, in revenge, re-called the order, and the book is now sold publicly. What is worse is that this scandalous book is dedicated to His Most Christian Majesty and to the King of Great Britain in two separate dedications. This greatly disturbs the Nuncio, who leaves no stone unturned to secure the renewal of the prohibition; but he will find great difficulty now that Parliament has the matter in hand.

M. de Vitry is returning to England ostensibly for sport, but really to arrange for embarking ten thousand troops who are going to serve the King of Denmark.

Paris, 21st September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 23.
Consiglio de'Dieci, Parti Communi. Venetian Archives.

337. That the jewels of the Sanctuary and the armoury of the Ten be shown to certain English gentlemen, as requested by the English Ambassador.

Ayes 16.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 24.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

338. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

Large numbers of pirates have put out in the Mediterranean and the Ocean; and off Finisterre they captured a ship hailing from Hamburg and another bound for London, the value being one hundred and fifty thousand ducats. This causes alarm on account of the East Indian ships.

Madrid, 24th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 27.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

339. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

He has come to return thanks in his Majesty's name for the promptness with which the Republic has acted in the matter of Seymour, so as to secure his arrest should he come to Venetian

* The book was entitled "Mysterium iniquitatis." French 1611, Latin 1612. *See* Reusch, "Der Index der Verbotenen Bücher," II 67.

† *See* Archivio di Stato, Venice. Despatches from Rome, 6th Aug., 1611. The police had arrested the Cardinal's servants, who had helped to rescue a prisoner.

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territory. Whenever he heard of the orders issued by the Government he sent a person of importance to convey his thanks to the Venetian Ambassador; and now as a fuller proof of his satisfaction he has ordered his Ambassador in Venice to tender his thanks to his Serenity.

The Doge expressed their satisfaction at having gratified his Majesty. They heard that Seymour was in Flanders and was likely to stay there in the hope of obtaining a pardon.

The Ambassador replied that he saw that his Serenity was well informed about English matters, thanks, no doubt, to his Ambassador, about whom he has received orders from his Majesty to express the satisfaction felt at the Ambassador's manner of dealing with affairs. His Majesty treated the Ambassador not as the Envoy of the Republic, but as one of his own most intimate and important Councillors. "I must mention a particular imparted to me by his Majesty himself. When he was out of London about seventy miles, and was celebrating the anniversary of his escape from a conspiracy, the Ambassador set out to visit him, and when he was thirty miles off he sent his secretary to announce his arrival so as not to take the Court by surprise. He is therefore in high favour, as indeed were all the other Envoys of Venice. And this I can affirm, as I was present at most of their audiences; and so I cannot but admire the wealth of distinguished personages in this most prudent and well-ordered Government." He especially praises Correr.

The Doge in reply said that as the present Ambassador, Foscarini, had been some time at the Court of France his Majesty may find pleasure in discussing with him the affairs of that country.

The Ambassador tenders thanks for the favour shown in allowing him to visit some of the tribunals of the Republic, and especially the *Quarantia Criminale*. He praises the eloquence of the Procurator (*Avogador*) Basadonna, who in the course of his address paid a compliment to the English nation.

The Doge explains the nature of the Venetian Law Courts, and says the Ambassador may go there whenever he likes.

The Ambassador announces that he is going out of Venice for change of air. He had been in the Trevisano in the spring; he now desires to go to the Padovano, which had given him so much pleasure on his way to Venice.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 27. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives. Expulsis Papalistis.

340. After the English Ambassador had finished his remarks, recorded in the ordinary minutes, he went on to say:—

He returns thanks for the liberation of Castelvetro, which he recognises as a great favour. When the Senate's resolution that Castelvetro must leave the City and the State was communicated to him he had no answer ready, because he did not know what Castelvetro might determine to do. But after talking with him and finding him ready to obey, the Ambassador sent his Secretary to return thanks and to assure the Doge that Castelvetro would depart, and that the orders of the Government would be fully carried out.

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And so they have been, for it is about fourteen days now since Castelvetro set out for France. He departed openly, acknowledging his obligation and praising the Republic. The Ambassador assures the Doge of his readiness to listen to the prudent advice about persons not residing in his house, and promises to act with all caution, nor will he abuse the continued favours showered upon him.

The Doge replied that Castelvetro had acted wisely in withdawing and in taking the route he had adopted, for otherwise, had he stayed on in Venice or its neighbourhood, he ran the risk of falling into trouble, because, as the Ambassador was aware, the Pope and his Ministers dealt very actively with these matters of religion; as indeed His Majesty does in his own case; and that was why he had ventured to make those observations to the Ambassador.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

341. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador in the audience which he had last Saturday of the Earl of Salisbury told him that the Queen of France had caused Parliament to confirm the treaty between the two Crowns and desired that the same should be done here. He had a courteous answer, but it was pointed out that there were difficulties, and that the King must be consulted, as a final answer could come from no one but from him. The Spanish Ambassador in his audience, talking of the marriage of his Most Christian Majesty with the Infanta, declared that there had never been any difficulty except over the question of the Infanta's succession in case her brothers died. The difficulty was surmounted by a decree and an agreement barring her succession. He went on to say that as the succession was barred there was no longer any difference between the sisters, and suggested a contract of marriage between the second Infanta and the Prince; Salisbury replied that they might treat of second with second, that is of the Duke of York's marriage with the second Infanta; *this he said with heat and scorn.* The Ambassador made no reply to this, and at the end of the conversation, *while the Earl pressed him home he remained quite humble and apologetic and hesitating.* Both the Ambassador of France and the Ambassador of Spain have urgently sought audience. The French Ambassador, who employed the Duke of Lennox to obtain his request, has four letters on urgent matters to present; the Spanish Ambassador has to carry out his instructions in regard to the reply about the marriage of the first Infanta. To both the King sent answer that he wished to go on with the chase. The truth is he is angry and wishes to consult on the answer he will return. On this point there were meetings yesterday and the day before at Theobalds. The Earl of Salisbury returned here to-day, but I have not had time to find out what resolution they have reached. I gather that with France too they will go slowly. *A gentleman in Lord Salisbury's confidence said to me that in Spain they find chicanery and in France indecision. The friendship of the United Provinces is sure and lasting.*

Lord Salisbury advised the Ambassador of France, when presenting to the King his request that the treaty should be confirmed

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by Parliament, to bring with him some definite proposals on other points that might please his Majesty. Accordingly the Ambassador sent off his Secretary post haste to obtain from the Queen definite orders to proceed with the marriage negotiations and for money to pay the Scottish bodyguard; the Duke of Lennox spoke clearly on the point and the men refused to muster till promise of payment in full had been given. There is also a question about the Huguenot Assembly and about a book written by du Plessis Mornay, dedicated to the King of England which they talked of censuring, a step that would offend his Majesty.

On Thursday evening the Earl of Salisbury had an express from France. He brought news that the Huguenot Assembly had separated on the express desire and command of the Queen. Many Ministers were strongly opposed to this step, and when the royal concessions were opened they were found to be far more restricted than those which had been promised, and this produced profound discontent; and one hears lively expressions made use of such as to cause anxiety. I believe the French Ambassador has made representations to his Excellency, and this may in a large measure explain the despatch of the Secretary in such haste. The Spanish Ambassador informed me that the negotiations for a marriage between the Prince of Spain and the Princess of France are far advanced, and as the marriage of the King of France with the Infanta is concluded there can be no doubt that the other will also be effected. Touching on the point of the exclusion of the Infanta from succession, he confirmed the fact and added that should a Spanish Princess be married here the same condition would be imposed. As to the remarks of Lord Salisbury about a match with the Duke of York, the Ambassador said that this was mere talk, for the daughters of his Master wed Crowns only, and not second-born sons. He pointed out that the Queen of Spain was a third daughter, she had two elder sisters, and this proved that where there was no question of succession no distinction was to be drawn between the first and the second Infanta; there are only two or three years between them, and, if the Prince were to be married at twenty-five he would then be both vigorous and still young.

Despatches from Spain bring news that the Duke of Lerma had promised complete satisfaction in regard to certain vessels, in the most positive manner, *but minds here are so ill-disposed that no credence is given, and so a secretary of the Earl of Salisbury, who came to visit me to-day, told me plainly.*

The marriage between the Prince of Wales and the Princess of France is being actively negotiated and they say it is virtually settled. This is confirmed by the English Ambassador in France. The Spanish Ambassador here expresses astonishment that it should be discussed while negotiations are on foot with Spain.

London, 30th September, 1611.

[*Italian, the part in italics deciphered.*]

Sept. 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

342. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have letters from the Hague of the 3rd and the 10th. They state that M. de Rodenberg has had very kind words from the Duke

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of Lerma and the certain hope of indemnification for the damage done at the Island of Ternate. Rodenberg adds that as the Duke is now aware that the United Provinces are resolved to send armed vessels to the East Indies to avenge injuries and to make reprisals upon Spanish shipping, he expects a fulfilment of these promises, as there is an obvious desire to keep the peace. All the same the Dutch continue to fit out their twelve ships which will take the sea in two months' time, the right season for that voyage. They will make themselves felt if, before the expiry of that time, indemnification has not been made by the King of Spain. In Amsterdam they are fitting out eighteen men-of-war, which will put out on the tenth of next month under the command of the Admiral of Zealand. Their mission will be to fight the pirates, and their first voyage will be towards Ireland, where they will attack the buccaneers in the very ports; they will then sweep these seas and cruise down the coast of Portugal and through the Straits to Barbary. As regards the rumour that the Grand Duke has invited the pirates to Leghorn, offering them safety, the Secretary of his Highness* told me that even if the rumour were true, the invitation must have been given before these last depredations took place, and if the Corsairs came to Leghorn with their booty he could easily have compelled them to disgorge it, but now that the interested parties believe so badly and speak so ill of his Highness, he, as a good servant, can do nothing. He thinks that the Grand Duke, desiring to increase his naval power, will employ such people as these, who are skilled in naval matters; but as to giving security to plundered goods and an invitation to bring them freely to Leghorn, he does not believe it.

Last week a ship was here which had fallen in, off Portugal, with some of the pirates to whom the pardon had been sent. They took the cargo but let the ship go without further damage. After leaving Ireland they acquired two great ships, and are augmenting their forces. The armed vessel belonging to the merchants set out with the copy of the pardon† to follow up the traces of the pirates in the hopes of inducing them to restore the plunder. This is not likely to happen, but if it did and the pirates disbanded, it is thought that their leaders settling down in their homes in England would easily furnish others with the means to continue the business and would have a share in the plunder. It is therefore thought that the affair is of the greatest importance and full of difficulties. It seems that they found great hopes on the Dutch ships which will certainly put out in a few days.

The King of Denmark is pushing forward; he has occupied a small island of high strategic importance. His Ambassador extols the capture of Kalmar as a very great commercial city, capital of Gothland. The King of Denmark desires the support of the King of England, his brother-in-law, chiefly to show the world that his Majesty approves of the war as just, whereas it is to be feared that he thinks the very reverse. The arrival of the Danish Envoy (Charisius) is expected to produce good results. But the King of Denmark, though he has made progress and shed much

* Lotto. † Mr. Povie was the bearer. *See* Cal. S.P. Ireland, 1611, Sept. 6.

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blood, and is utterly averse to an accommodation, will finally, owing to the pressure brought to bear upon him, be compelled to content himself with the reputation he has achieved. The Dutch Ambassadors have already made proposals for an accord, but have met with a refusal.

The Confederates of Hall, who were met in Rothenburg, signed a very close agreement and then separated. They have, it seems, an object beyond their mere safety, but I do not know what it may be.

The Ambassador of France told me to-day that on the royal orders reaching the Huguenot Assembly, some obeyed, others withdrew into the Castle along with du Plessis-Morny, Sully and others, and stayed there for three days; and then elected six deputies. High words have passed between the Duke of Rohan and another great personage of the Assembly.

To-morrow the King will be at Hampton Court. I will demand an audience, which I have delayed till now on the advice of the Earl of Salisbury.

London, 30th September, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 1. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

343. The Nuncio came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

Cardinal Borghese writes to me that the Pope is much distressed that he has not been able to speak to the Ambassador Cavalli on a subject of great importance, owing to the Ambassador's illness, which I hear is serious. His Holiness desires me in his name to represent to you what he would more gladly have said directly to the Ambassador so as to make clearer his feelings in the matter. That Castelvetro, from Modena, who has been released, was examined on former occasions by the Inquisition and abjured all his heresies of which he was convicted—and they were the worst that could be, Calvinistic and that of a bad kind. Recently this fellow was named by a Luchese, also prisoner of the Inquisition, and on this account the order for his arrest was issued and executed. It seems a strange thing to the Pope to hear that he has been set free, seeing that he is "relapsed," and of such a bad character, just one of those who in all countries are usually condemned and punished instead of protected and allowed to go with impunity. His Holiness recalls to your Serenity and to all these excellent gentlemen your ancient piety and religion; the danger of allowing such seed to be scattered among the people your subjects; the ruin and subversion of States which a similar contagion has brought about in every country where it has insinuated itself, of which there are numerous instances ancient and modern; His Holiness, in discharge of his office and to relieve your Serenity and all these gentlemen, has thought fit to call your attention to the case, for there is nothing so subject to censure as this, nothing so abhorred and detested by the Censors. He promises himself much from your piety, and is assured that you will give the matter the consideration it deserves and the account which is its due.

The Doge replied that they always felt sorry when such cases arose, "for we are not wont to meddle with the business of the Inquisition; we leave the matter to whom it concerns and we favour and protect them to the best of our power, as our

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ancestors always did. We pay special attention to all that contributes to maintaining the purity of the Catholic religion. That person was arrested and then it was found that he was under the protection of the English Ambassador and *sui juris*. We took into consideration that we were dealing with the Ambassador of a great Prince who was friendly to us, and bearing in mind how his Majesty had treated our Ambassador in London when he gave shelter and protection to Catholic priests, whom his Majesty has not only exempted from the penalties they had incurred but has graciously set at liberty—we came to the conclusion that we were bound to reciprocate his humane action; nor could we see a better way of doing so than that which we have adopted by liberating Castelvetro as a servant of the Ambassador. But as a remedy for the scandal we have enjoined on him to leave our States as soon as possible, and that he has done, thus freeing the City and the Dominion from the presence of such a person, and thus reserving to our Ambassadors the method of assisting Catholics in England. We regret that we could not come to any other resolve; we should have been glad to do so had we been able; but even in this our good will is evident in that we adopted the least prejudicial course that was open to us. That person is already so far off that it would take a month's journey to reach him. As to the Luchese, we know nothing of what is happening about him. You, who have been here so long, know that nothing is wanting here as far as we are concerned; that this matter is warmly commended to all; and you will be able to lay before his Holiness our just reasons and honest considerations and our regret at not being able to come to any other decision as that person belonged to the English Ambassador, who is very prudent in his conduct."

The Nuncio replied that he had written to his Holiness and had suggested these reasons now advanced by his Serenity, but it would seem that the Pope would not admit them; he does not think that it is an equal case to save a Catholic and to liberate a "relapsed," a heretic of the worst dye who, in short, believed in nothing. "I, however, will fulfil the injunction your Serenity lays on me, and to say the truth in the four years that I have been here, I confess that I have received much help and support from the representatives of the Serene Dominion. That man, however, was a bad fellow; I have his abjuration made some years back, and one sees that he believed nothing; further, when the Assessors granted a warrant he did not belong to the Ambassador's household, though he frequented it; and the police were instructed not to arrest him in the house nor near the house of the Ambassador. I must obey his Holiness' orders in a matter of such moment."

The Doge replied that they gave all due weight to the paternal admonitions of his Holiness. Castelvetro frequented the English Embassy to teach Italian, of which language he had made profession in England itself, where he had taught the King's Majesty. To avoid all scandal Castelvetro has left the State. The English Ambassador has behaved most prudently. His Holiness may rest assured that everything will be attended to and all disorders avoided. The Nuncio said he would write.

[*Italian.*]

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Oct. 1.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

344. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Polish Ambassador left the day before yesterday; I hear that he asked the Grand Vizir for the person of Prince Stephan, who continues to reside in the house of the English Ambassador, and even offered a large sum of money. He did not succeed. The King of Poland resents Stephan's pretensions to the Principality of Moldavia, which the King has bestowed upon Constantine, who now enjoys it, but who lives in perpetual suspicion, danger, and expense on account of this other man's claims.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 1st October, 1611.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Oct. 2.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

345. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The engagement of the Duke of Nemours has deferred the departure of Count Ruffia* for England. He is on the point of leaving, and he told me that he intended to send off part of his suite on Friday. He declares he has good hopes of concluding his business of the marriage of the Princess of England with the Prince of Piedmont; the only point to be settled was that of religion. The French at the English Court were supporting the match with the Count Palatine.

Turin, 2nd October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 2.
Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

346. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Father Cesena, Commissary of the Capuchins, has been here some days on a mission from the Pope to induce the Duke to abandon the English match.

Turin, 2nd October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 5.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

347. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

A daughter was born to the English Ambassador last month. She was baptized on the 25th, and the King and Queen were invited; the one sent the Duke of Bouillon, the other the Princess of Orange, who were present in their Majesties' names, and gave two jewels to the child.

M. de Vitry has not left yet for England. He is secretly trying to raise troops to take with him into Denmark. He finds great difficulty, as the French are unwilling to take themselves to that Kingdom, where they would encounter such inconveniences, especially in winter.

* Count of Cartignana. *See* Gardiner, "History of England," Vol. II., p. 137.

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The Marquis of Guadaleste has arrived in Brussels as Ambassador from the Emperor.

Paris, October 5th, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 6. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

348. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have been severely colded for four days now, which keeps me in bed. The day before yesterday Lord Salisbury's Secretary came to tell me that the King would be glad to see me and that I was to choose the day. I returned thanks and said I would receive the favour when I was better. To-day Sir Lewis Lewkenor came to me from the King to say that his Majesty awaited me on Saturday at Hampton Court if my health permitted, if not, on Tuesday. Yesterday the French Ambassador had audience, and returned to London without seeing Lord Salisbury. On Monday a resident Ambassador from the Archduke Albert arrived. He was met by the Spanish Ambassador's coaches and the Master of the Ceremonies. He is seeking audience. The Council has been sitting lately at Hampton Court to discuss home and foreign affairs. I have received the papers relating to Giacomo Castelvetro. I shall use them in framing my replies to the King or to any who may mention the matter, and this may very likely happen at my audience. I must not conceal from your Excellencies that in this Embassy there has always been an Englishman as interpreter, a Catholic, who has regularly attended the church without anyone hindering him. The same goes on in the French and Spanish Embassies, to his Majesty's entire satisfaction. I have thought it my duty to bring this to your Serenity's notice; fuller information can be obtained from the Illustrious Correr.

London, 6th October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

349. Domenico Domenici, Secretary to the Venetian Embassy in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

Announces the death of the Ambassador, Marin Cavalli, which took place the preceding night.

Rome, 7th October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 9. Collegio, Lettere di Rè e Regine. Venetian Archives.

350. James by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, to the Most Serene Prince and Lord, Leonardo Donato, by like Grace, Doge of Venice, our dearest friend, greeting.

Returning thanks for what the Republic had done in the matter of Seymour; he does not make much account of him (*contemptabiles enim et res et persona sunt*).

Returning thanks for what was done in the case of Castelvetro, for which he is very grateful. He rejoices that the Republic will

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not prostitute the supreme authority which is inherent in her Empire to the lust of those who under the cloak of religion seek to intrude in matters that have nothing to do with religion (*dum jus supremum quod ad Imperium vestrum attinet nolitis prostituere libidini illorum qui sub religionis umbra in id quod minime est religionis invadunt*).

From our Palace of Westminster, 9th October, 1611.

Jacobus, R.

[*Latin.*]

Oct. 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

351. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I am forwarding my accounts for postage and couriers during the time of my Embassy in France.

London, 14th October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

352. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Friday evening the Archduke's Ambassador was told that his audience was fixed for Sunday. As I knew the ancient claims to precedence and thinking that these might still be advanced, I, in spite of my indisposition, at once informed Sir Lewis Lewkenor that I would be ready next morning to wait on his Majesty. I accordingly followed the French Ambassador at Court, where I was received most graciously by the King, who advanced three steps and taking me by the hand, with a cheerful countenance, led me to a window; I assured him that the Republic desired to prove what it had so often affirmed by its representatives, that it was devoted to his Majesty, and it seized the opportunity of the affair of Seymour, and had issued orders that if he entered Venetian territory he was to be arrested. The King, without allowing me to proceed further, said that in truth the words and the deeds of their Excellencies did match, a thing that cannot be said of other Kings and Princes. He would reply in kind and recognized that he was both esteemed and loved by your Excellencies.

He then went on to speak of Castelvetro; he told me that Castelvetro had served his Majesty four or five years in Scotland for the Italian tongue; he was very intimate and was well liked, and so the King felt obliged for this other favour which his Ambassador had reported as it deserved. He had to return thanks both for Seymour's case and for this man's and would do it in good ink. Meanwhile he charged me to express his obligation. He then told me, with considerable indignation, that Seymour was to be seen openly at Paris. He mentioned the proposed marriage of the Infanta, and declared that this Ambassador and his predecessors had always spoken as if the King of Spain desired to give her to the Prince of Wales. Nay, they had even shown a letter from the Duke of Lerma ordering the Ambassador to make the proposal in the King's name, and thereupon the King wrote to Salisbury telling him to instruct the English Ambassador to raise the question. The King spoke with warmth. As regards the French alliance he said that the French

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Ambassador two months ago had told him that he had orders to suggest the match; but while negotiations with Spain were pending it did not seem proper to negotiate with France; later on the French Princess was designed for Spain. As to the Huguenot Assembly it had dissolved on the representations of the Duke de Bouillon, as was reasonable, out of regard for the Queen. The concessions are not of great weight. The permission to have Huguenot teachers in the suburbs of the City is limited to teaching grammar and writing, nor may the pupils exceed ten in number. With this and like discourse his Majesty kept me for long. I did not omit to dwell upon the favourable disposition of your Excellencies and I insisted as far as was reasonable on the importance of Castelvetro's case.

I then had an interview with Lord Salisbury and recounted the matter of my audience with the King. Lord Salisbury said that his Majesty had to thank your Excellencies in the *case of Castelvetro*; and charged me to say that the King would return the favour. On Saturday morning Lewkenor came to fetch me, and accompany me to Hampton Court and back to London. I received marks of special favour. The question of Shirley's audience came up. He claims to be admitted as Ambassador of the King of Persia. After many difficulties the Earl allowed him to have audience and agreed that he should go as he chose, though at first the Persian dress was vetoed. Lewkenor did all he could to help Shirley, who is a relation. On my return to London my cold became worse. With warmth and little food I hope to recover, by God's grace, such health as He permits me.

London, 14th October, 1611.

[*Italian; the parts in italics deciphered.*]

Oct. 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

353. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I will continue from my preceding despatch, with such brevity as my poor health permits me.

The French Ambassador in his audience touched on the dissolution of the Diet, the amount of money due from the King of France to the King of England—a point which is urgent—the muster of the Scotch and the money to be paid them. He also said something about marriages and sundry small difficulties which, as usually, arise between neighbouring Sovereigns. The King discussed the marriages between France and Spain, and the Ambassador replied that he knew nothing for certain, but as there was equality of age and rank between the children of those two Crowns, such alliances might be credited. As soon as his Secretary returns he will have positive news on that and other points. The audience was a long one, and the King was suitably satisfied. The Secretary arrived on Saturday. He brings news that the Prince of Condè was expected at Court daily; that in Brittany the Duke of Retz had come to arms with the son of the Marshal de Brisac on a question of precedence at the meeting of the Estates which is being held in that Province. Both these gentlemen had a following of upwards of one thousand five hundred men. As it is a private quarrel the Queen does not choose to intervene, but will let them

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punish themselves. The Duke of Bouillon has gone to Sedan, where he awaits the Duchess of Rohan to be Godmother to his child. Differences are not wanting between the Duke of Guise and the Constable. The reply about payment is that the Queen will cause to be instantly handed to the King one hundred thousand ducats. She has already found the way and the merchants who will make the payment. As for the Scottish Guards they will be paid their arrears since the death of the King, and hopes are held out that they will soon receive the earlier arrears. As for the question of marriage, they keep silence and try to cover it up; the match with Spain, however, is recognised as concluded. On the separation of the Diet of Rothenburg explanations were sent to the French Court. They hope to be able to defend themselves against any attack from the House of Austria; if there is any sign of a good understanding between the two Crowns they will be cautious in revealing their designs. The Archduke Albert has designated the Count of Sora to the Hungarian Court, and has sent him to Vienna with rich gifts and a secret commission. The Marquis of Lancester (*sic*) has arrived in Brussels in the quality of Spanish Ambassador, a post he has already filled. The Archduke will send the Count of Bucquoi to Spain. M. de Peckius, appointed Superintendent General, will not now go to Holland. The general meeting of the States is now sitting at the Hague.

The same day that I had audience of the King a gentleman, arrived from Denmark, brought news that the King of Denmark was pressing Halmstad [*Armstadt*], and that the King of Sweden was fifteen miles off with his army, and was acting with great cruelty even to his own troops. Whether this be true or only said to stir hate I do not know. The Cha'ush is seeking to be dismissed, and the Spanish Ambassador is waiting audience.

London, 14th October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 17.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

354. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Clarette, Secretary to the Count of Visca, Savoyard Ambassador at Rome, arrived here in haste, having made the journey in five days. As far as I can gather his mission is a very secret one, referring to the proposed marriage between the Prince of Piedmont and the Princess of England, to which his Holiness is opposed on the score of religion. To this the Duke had replied that his Holiness ought to like the match as giving a chance to spread the faith in England. The Commissary Cesena reported this answer to Rome, and the Pope made vigorous representations to Visca, who has sent his Secretary post haste.

Turin, 17th October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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Oct. 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

355. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The day following my audience the Archduke's Ambassador waited on the King, accompanied by Lord Rossi (?) in one of the royal carriages. He found the King attended by the Prince and a suitable number of titled personages. He made a few remarks and had a very brief reply; he stood silent for a short time, then kissed the Prince's hand, and took his leave of the King. He went to Court with a very moderate following. He appears to desire to be on friendly relations with me. I have not been able to visit him yet because of my cold.

On last Tuesday week Sherley had audience of the King. He was conducted by the Baron Rossi and went in English dress. Three paces from the dais he made submission, sinking on his knees and imploring his Majesty's pardon if he, while still his Majesty's subject, had ventured to accept that office, for he had done so on the express orders of the King of Persia. The King listened graciously and signed to Sherley to rise and approach. Sherley presented his credentials, and begged his Majesty to cause them to be interpreted so that he might fully grasp the nature of his authority in order to proceed to develop the subject of his Mission, about which he would not speak until his Majesty was fully informed of the powers and authority conferred upon him by the King of Persia. The King was pleased at this manner of proceeding, and presently caused Sherley to be covered and dismissed him, praising his prudence, eloquence and modesty after he had retired. So in a few days he will explain his proposals, which, as far as I understand, are two; one is commercial, the other relates to a union of arms against the Turk; but we shall know better after the letters have been interpreted what he is about to propose and what answer he will receive.

If Sherley is visited by the other Ambassadors I will not fail to do the same; I will be guided by their action.

To-day the King was here; he stayed half the day and then went on to Royston, where he will stay for three or four weeks for his usual sport. He gave audience to the Spanish Ambassador, an hour before leaving. The subject was the Spanish answer to the demand of the Infanta's hand for the Prince of Wales. *The King listened severely, and the Ambassador of France and an intimate of the Earl of Salisbury both told me that the Ambassador told his Majesty that when he urged his Majesty to ask for the Infanta's hand he was acting on orders from the King, his Master, and from the Duke of Lerma, and he would prove it by producing his instructions. He announced that he was about to ask leave to retire. This way of presenting the matter, so different from the line pursued with Lord Salisbury, has caused comment, and it is said that the Ambassador is acting on his own initiative without waiting instructions from Spain. The King continues in great displeasure, so do the Queen and the Prince, and there is no one who dares to say a word about the second Infanta. They have also some feeling against France for having concluded the match without giving information here. On the other hand the French Ambassador makes an able defence to the King and to the Council, with*

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whom he had an interview this day week. He urged that it was true that it was right to inform friends and allies—that they had been and still were in close treaty with Spain but nothing was concluded, and when it was France would not fail to give notice; all the same there remains a little—I know not what—which, however, is of small moment and the Ambassador expects it to disappear in twenty days or a month.

The Prince was here the day before yesterday. He is almost always with the Earl of Salisbury. He aspires to the post of Lord High Admiral, and has managed so cleverly with the King that he has got his word for it, in spite of the fact that the King designed to make the Duke of York Admiral. A gentleman in the confidence of the Prince told me that in the time of the late Queen the post of Admiral was worth one hundred and fifty thousand crowns a year, thanks to the troubles with Spain and the patents granted to corsairs to harry the coast of Spain and the Spanish fleets. In time of war it is undoubtedly the greatest post in this kingdom. The Prince with his diligence and authority will regulate many abuses which the present Admiral, who is decrepit, can hardly do. He then went on to praise the Prince as every one does, extolling his prudence, his seriousness, his magnanimity, his perfection of mind and body which promised the best results. Yesterday his Highness was presented with some horses sent by the Duke of Lorraine, and a few days before he had had some from the Duke of Radziwill; he has had some and expects others from his uncle, the King of Denmark. He is very fond of horses and manages them to a marvel.

The Danish Ambassador (Charisius), by means of the Queen, has seen the King in private at Hampton Court several times. He has been successful and has conciliated his Majesty. The Queen worked to this end. He is leaving highly honoured and with a present. The Dutch Ambassador told me that the Envoys to Denmark are on their way back. I write no more as I am without my Dutch letters this week; they are delayed by the wind.

London, 21st October, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Oct. 22. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

356. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Among the others who put to sea to discover the short route to the East Indies* seven years ago a certain Captain Thompson, an Englishman, under the protection and with a vessel of the Dutch, attempted the passage for two years, but in vain. He continued the enterprise later under the auspices of some merchants of London, known as the India Company, with no better fortune.

* *See* Birch "Court and Times of James I." 1-139. "There is a little treatise of the North-West passage written by Sir Dudley Digges; but I may say, *beatus qui intelligit*, especially the first period, which is but a bad beginning to stumble at the threshold . . . . But he is wonderfully possessed with the opinion, and hopes of that passage."—Chamberlain to Carleton. *See also Cal. S.P. Dom.*, Dec. 4, 1611. "Sir Dudley Diggs busy with the discovery of the North-West passage." The Company of Discoverers of the North-West Passage received a grant of Incorporation July 26, 1612. Prince Henry was named supreme Protector.

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But at last two years ago he set sail with provisions for a couple of years; the first winter he halted in the heart of the cold so as to avoid the danger of ice floes in uninhabited places; he then passed north-west (*tramontana maestra*) of the continent of the West Indies, towards the Chinese Sea (*mar del Cathaio*) and the East Indies. He returned by the same route and the vessel under his command put into Plymouth, a town in these isles, two hundred miles west of London. His surviving crew numbered twelve out of the twenty-five that sailed. They have been examined by the Prince, and have brought back drawings of the places which they passed, and have given a very good account of all they saw. The ship in which they made this journey is a small *berton* of about one hundred and fifty tons. Having put into port for water and meat the master was wounded by an Indian with a dart and died. They report that in the most northerly parts of their route they encountered great quantities of ice, which at first sight caused them more terror than hindrance to their subsequent progress. After narrow and frozen seas they sailed into open water and a climate as warm as Spain. They penetrated this sea several times in order to be there at the right season, and so they have fuller knowledge and observation of it. In the future they hope to make the journey there and back easily in eight months, whereas up to now it has taken little less than two years. The King will forbid any to trade by this route save those at whose charges it was discovered; and they are to share in the profits in proportion to their contributions towards the expenses. As these merchants are both many and rich they propose to bring large quantities of drugs and other Eastern merchandize, and to supply most of Europe, which they think they can do very cheaply. I have had conversations about this with men who are thoroughly versed in the matter and are not interested parties. They point out that the royal prohibition to use the route will not apply to the Dutch or other nations; and so unless there are upon the route some narrows which the English could fortify and thus block the passage for foreign vessels, others may take to the same route, which cannot be kept secret for long, and so all Western Europe on the Atlantic sea-board will share in the profits.

I will pay attention to finding out something more and what opinion the leading merchants hold and all that takes place.

I have thought it my duty to send your Excellencies a full account of a matter of such importance, and one which, as it is believed, may easily alter the aspect of commerce.

London, 22nd October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

357. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After eighteen days in the house with cold and fever the day before yesterday I went out. The Spanish Ambassador at an interview which he had with the Council the day before his audience of the King *explicitly stated that all that had been done to induce them to demand the Infanta's hand had been done on the express orders of the*

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King. He had always intended the eldest Infanta and his instructions referred distinctly to her; if the Duke of Lerma and the King spoke differently afterwards he was not to blame. Out of respect he could not deny what they said, all the same he had his instructions in writing. All his remarks were carefully written down, and he was told he would have audience of the King, to whom he could repeat these declarations. He says he wishes to retire as soon as possible. These representations have inflamed the mind of his Majesty against the King of Spain, and he has sent orders to his Ambassador in Spain to make the most vigorous protest possible, showing out of the mouth of the Spanish Ambassador that the proceeding is a trick. My informant is a person of great importance and deep in affairs. The action of the Spanish Ambassador was determined by his certainty that in the Council held at Theobalds they had resolved that if he gave any other kind of reply they would hand him his passports and would recall their Ambassador from Spain. In Spain they will maintain that they always talked of the second Infanta, and never gave any orders except about her. The Spanish Ambassador here will be dismissed and the English Ambassador in Spain recalled; and had the King been of a different temper worse might have happened.

The Protestant Princes assembled at the Diet of Rothenburg have resolved to invite the King to enter their confederation; they have sent him the articles of the Union and have written fully and submissively. His Majesty is showing greater warmth than usual, and this morning a courier has been despatched with letters for most of the Princes assembled for the New Diet. This Conference is intended to check the further aggrandisement of the House of Austria, especially in Germany.

The Dutch Ambassador has had audience. *His Majesty did not conceal from him that the Spanish Ambassador actually made the statement which I reported regarding the marriage of the Infanta.* The business of the Dutch Ambassador related to the payment due from the States to the English Crown. He mentioned the subject of the twelve Dutch ships which had taken the sea against the pirates, and touched on the matter of a certain lecturer at Leyden.* He spoke about German affairs. As to the money it will be paid in full. As to the squadron against the pirates it has proved very costly and it would yield better fruit if they would proceed to punish those who in Ireland give support to the corsairs. As to the appointment of the lecturer who has written a book condemned by his Majesty and ordered to be burned, the Ambassador said something in his defence but added that his Masters desired to satisfy his Majesty. As to the affairs of Germany the General Assembly of the States would be guided by his Majesty's advice. The King informed the Ambassador that in the matter of Cleves he had told Neuburg that he desired the new Duke of Saxony to be admitted as a "possessioner," just as the late Duke had been. His Majesty intends to assist Wirtemberg in some differences he has with the Archduke Albert. If the King enters the federation

* Vorstius. In August the King had invited Sir Noel Caron, the Dutch Ambassador, to co-operate with Sir Ralph Winwood in preventing Vorstius' appointment to the Chair of Divinity in Leyden.

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of Rothenburg so will the Dutch. The Queen of France still keeps up the foot and horse. The Princess of Condè is at Brussels, very well received.

London, 28th October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

358. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

In the last audience the French Ambassador had with the King *His Majesty spoke with much agitation, vigorously attacking M. de Villeroy as a friend of Spain and but little affected towards this Crown.*

It seems that it is not altogether pleasing here that the Duke of York should continue to receive a pension from the King of France. This pension used to be paid to Prince Henry in Scotland, but on the King's accession to the throne of England is was transferred to the Duke of York. The Ambassador has done all he can, but without much result. The muster and the pay for one year have been suspended, and the King will not allow them to take it unless the whole be paid; that would mean a very considerable sum. The Commissioner and the paymasters, however, are still here.

I returned the Spanish Ambassador's visit. He dwelt on the death of the Queen, on the loss it inflicted, on the inconvenience of children born of various mothers, though the King, who is young, would not live long without a wife. Some good might arise all the same, as it might bring about a closer union with some great Sovereign. He then went on to talk of the affair of Sassello, which he said would easily be accommodated. I enclose a copy of a paper containing information on the subject furnished by the Constable, that your Excellencies may see how he reports matters. He spoke of the Spanish fleet which had put out from Sicily and of the Ragusans who are so closely bound to his Majesty. As to the answer given in Spain to the offer of marriage he said they were wrong here to suppose that he had spoken of his own accord, for never would he alter a word except on express orders. He did not conceal from me that when Parliament met in Spring some motion might be made to please the majority, who certainly do not love quiet.

The French Ambassador has this morning received a courier, who made the journey in three days. To-morrow he will see Lord Salisbury. The day the courier left the Prince of Condè arrived at Court, which had gone into mourning again for the Queen of Spain.

London, 28th October, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Oct. 30. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

359. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Confirming the news of the Pope's vehement opposition to the English match.

Turin, 30th October, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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1611. Nov. 2. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

360. ZORZI GIUSTINIAN, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Queen determined to summon before her the Huguenot Deputies and to promise that all the privileges granted by the late King would be maintained, and that she would add fifteen thousand crowns a year to the eight thousand they already draw for the upkeep of their Churches and Ministers. De Vic, Caumartin and Boissise have been sent into the Provinces to proclaim this.

Paris, 2nd November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

361. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

As soon as the Spanish Ambassador had spoken, to the Council first and then, two days after, to the King, in the sense that I reported as to the answer in the affair of the Infanta, he immediately reported to his Sovereign by express viâ Brussels, explaining the motives which had induced his action, as the lesser evil, so as to avoid the risk of being dismissed and the recall of the English Ambassador in Spain, which would have caused open disgust to this crown and brought small dignity to the Spanish. Time may soothe the bitterness of mind, although the resentment is great, not only in the mind of the King and of the royal family, but also of the Council. Everybody is considering the inclination towards some change; this kingdom flourishes in time of war, for it is so situated that it is protected from all attack while it can easily attack others. If the King would grant licences, thousands would fit out at their own charges. The times and the deeds of Queen Elizabeth are a proof, and yet at that epoch England was separate from Scotland. The Ambassador declared that it was more than ever necessary to pension the great personages to this Court, and to give some kind of satisfaction to the King. The Ambassador is incensed at the treatment he thinks he has received from the Duke of Lerma, and attributes it to his enemies and to his kinship with the Constable. He has the greatest difficulty in containing himself. A person of importance, from whom I have the above information, assures me that if the King of Spain should make up his mind to pay pensions, the King of England will prevent it, as he has his eyes open, and will make this quite clear; he will punish the first who dares to accept a pension. My informant thinks the Spanish will make secret donatives and so seek to pacify the ill-humour.

After the King had despatched letters to the Princes of the Union he instructed his Ambassador to the States to ratify the decisions of the Diet of Rothenburg, and to declare that his Majesty entered it as Chief. The decisions include a most binding confederation, obligation to an annual contribution, in time of war for expenses and in time of peace to be funded; demands on the Emperor for the absolute restitution of Donauwerth, and the reform of the Chamber of Spires; peace and religious liberty and finally an exhortation to the Emperor to resume the entire Imperial authority with offers to assist him with arms. The convention is nominally defensive, but it is conceived in such wide terms that on

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the smallest occasion it might be amplified to become offensive as well. The Landgrave of Hesse and the Prince of Anhault are endeavouring to rouse the Emperor by means of a third party and they do not despair; if they succeed they will think they have gained a point of great moment.

On the conclusion of the Diet another will be held in Holland, for purposes of ratification. It is hoped that the Duke of Brunswick will enter, also the Elector of Saxony and the King of Denmark. All have promised; and so the construction of that Union, if, as seems likely, there are two Kings, the Dutch, three electors and many German princes, will be capable of balancing the power of Austria.

The Marquis of Lancester, who, as I informed you, has arrived at Brussels as Ambassador from his Catholic Majesty, brings great hopes for the Election of his Highness as King of the Romans, and an order for one hundred thousand crowns payable in Germany, which in this present tightness of money will not be easily negotiated. We know for certain that the mission of Bucquoi, as the Archduke's Ambassador to Spain, was intended to facilitate the said election and to urge the necessity for the prompt supply of money, of which the Archduke is in great need. I am informed that besides all this the Marquis has some other business that is little to the mind of the Archduke and the Infanta, and this brought about the mission of a person of such importance as is the Count of Bucquoi, General of the Artillery. I have visited the Archduke's Ambassador here, and he told me that the object of Bucquoi's mission was money.

Yesterday morning a gentleman of the suite of Count Ruffia, Ambassador from the Duke of Savoy, arrived here, and in the afternoon he went to the Earl of Salisbury, who gave the necessary orders to Sir Lewis Lewkenor for the reception. This gentleman announces that Count Ruffia is coming by way of Holland, and will stop two days in Amsterdam; he is expected here in five or six days. To-day the gentleman called on Lord Salisbury and to-morrow he will leave for Dover to meet the Ambassador on his landing in this Kingdom. I shall not fail to be on the watch to discover the subject of his negotiations and I will duly inform your Excellencies.

The Prince has gone to Royston, where the King is. He will come back with their Majesties to London.

London, 4th November, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

362. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have various letters from France. First for Italian matters; M. de Jacob has urged the Queen to observe the movements of Spain as regards Sassello, and to allow Lesdiguières to speak secretly with the Duke of Savoy on matters of simple defence. The Queen sent off Bullion to join Lesdiguières, and to deal with the method for establishing his claim to the Canton Vaud.

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The Duke of Savoy continues to urge the marriage of the eldest Princess of France with the Prince, his son. Although it is well known that the Princess is destined for Spain they do not fail to hold out hopes, but always conditional on the King's majority, until which they say they can settle nothing. All is quiet in France; though the Huguenots are disgusted. The Prince of Condè and some other persons of quality are little satisfied.

The day following the receipt of his despatches the French Ambassador went to Lord Salisbury and remained till night. He first of all dealt with certain appenages in France belonging to the Queen of Scotland,* mother of his Majesty; they are now to be reduced to money; then about the hundred thousand crowns due to his Majesty; then about the muster and the pay due to the Scottish men-at-arms. As to the French desire that the ratification of the confederacy should be made by Parliament, the Ambassador said nothing, as other affairs were pressing, and Parliament is not to meet till spring.

The Dutch ships which put out to attack the pirates, are lying in Plymouth, to the number of twelve; perhaps by this time they may have gone on their way. The Viceroy of Ireland is on his way here and cannot be much longer in arriving.

I have had more particulars about the North West passage. Besides confirming my previous report it is now added that near the end of the voyage they found a gulf of the sea, about fifty miles wide, which kept narrowing till it became only twelve; then the master took a small boat and pushed a few miles further on and found that it opened out again. He went far enough to discover an ample ocean, and with that back to his ship and so home. They propose to build two forts on these straits. The Prince desires this route to be under his protection. In two months' time they will send two *bertons* to make sure of the route and to push further on. They may even carry a little merchandise. They are lading some very rich vessels for the Indies which will take the long route, as they do not like to run the risk of this new route so imperfectly known.

London, 4th November, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 6. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

363. Gegorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Instructions have been sent to Ruffia to delay his journey and to retard his negotiations as far as possible; this is the result of French action to upset the English match.

Turin, 6th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 11. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

364. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King is still in the same attitude towards Spain. Against France too there is some feeling—more deeply rooted than was, perhaps, suspected.

* *See Cal. S.P. Dom.*, Nov. 7, 1611. Confirmation of Commission passed in France by French King for levying the remainder of the dower of Queen Mary.

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The death of the Queen of Spain has given occasion to talk of this Princess. These remarks, brought to his Majesty's ears by one of his intimates, caused him to reply "*You would like to give but few days to the Prince and the Duke, my sons, so I have heard,*" *but the French Ambassador adds that the remark was made about the Queen and the King himself.*

In the Diet of Nürenburg, after resolving all the questions affecting the Union, it was determined to beg the King to give the Princess to the Count Palatine with a view to binding the Confederation more closely together. It seems that the youth of the Elector, who still wants four years of twenty-one, is an objection, but they think they can find some remedy for that. The Duke of Wirtemberg is to go to Holland to settle some questions with the States, such as the amount of money to be contributed and the number of men with which, in case of necessity, they are to help and be helped.

The Prince will come here along with his Majesty and I am told that he will now take his place in the Council. He will, beyond doubt, attend regularly, for he takes great pleasure in the conduct of important affairs.

The Spanish Ambassador has asked audience to announce the death of the Queen. The French Ambassador is awaiting a courier with the decision on various points, and then he will also seek audience.

I am informed that his Majesty's Ambassador to your Serenity usually sends home excellent reports. He is really deserving of your grace and favour.

London, 11th October, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

365. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Count Ruffia, Ambassador of Savoy,* will be lodged and entertained at the King's charges. Orders for his lodging have already been given. It is thought that he is coming with very ample powers. As yet the King has shown no leaning to one more than to another of the Princess's suitors. The Spanish Ambassador, to whom I paid a visit of condolence, said that as the Duke of Savoy was so closely bound by blood to his Master, he would not fail to show courtesy to the Savoyard Ambassador, but he would not take any part in his negotiations except in one of two eventualities, either that he brings express orders from Spain or that orders are sent from Spain.

The French Ambassador assures me that the gentleman from the Duke of Radziwill has brought letters from his Master to the King in which the Duke continues the openings for a matrimonial alliance between the Prince of Poland and the Princess, a negotiation which the Duke initiated when the Grand Marshal was here. The Ambassador added that the King of Denmark, in his own interests, desires to see this match with

See Cal. S.P. Dom. Nov. 13.

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Poland; he is most exasperated against Sweden, and he hopes that, if he had a good understanding with the Poles, he might easily make himself master of the rest of Gothland, and by driving out Charles he might also have a part of Sweden, leaving the rest to the King of Poland; a design which will hardly give pleasure here.

The progress of the King of Denmark is of some importance on account of the conquest of the island of Öland (*Olant*), considerable because of its situation and which contains 18 big towns and more villages. There is even later news that he has made himself master of a fort on the ocean; but on the other hand he has received a blow of some weight from the King of Sweden, and has lost a place which he had conquered at the beginning. But this news is not certain.

The letters from the King of Persia brought by Sherley have been translated and he asks for audience to open his negotiations. Also the Cha'ush is pressing for a reply to his letters.

They are getting ready a fresh expedition to be sent to Virginia. It will be larger than the former expeditions.

Lord Salisbury informs me that the King besides thanking your Excellencies through me and through his Ambassador, for what you have done in the case of Seymour, has also written with his own hand.

London, 11th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 12. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Florence, Venetian Archives.

366. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

There is no news from Leghorn about the commissioning of ships, nor any other news except that some slaves and Christians and other scamps have been hung for stealing silk brought from Messina, after having their noses and ears cut off.

Florence, 12th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 12. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Florence, Venetian Archives. Expulsis papalistis.

367. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Father Inquisitor in Florence, who is a Minorite, complained to Don Giovanni de' Medici that he could not remain in Florence with any honour *as he did not receive that support from the Grand Duke which was due to his tribunal; nay, if a prisoner were conceded to him a means of escape was devised, and if he appealed to his Highness he was referred to the officials, who denied any knowledge, so that he appeared to be mocked. But his special reason for wishing to depart was to escape a situation which weighed greatly upon him; and it is this, a Jesuit called Father Scripando, a Neapolitian, who acts as patron of the English who come to Florence, told him to be on his guard, as I had in my house an Englishman who had written against the Pope and was a heretic; Scripando called upon the Inquisitor to do his duty. The Inquisitor asked the Jesuit if he lodged a complaint, and the Jesuit replied, Not yet, but he would presently return with the*

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necessary information about this man's meeting place, which he could get from the English; and so in order to avoid this difficulty which must inevitably rouse a great outcry, the Inquisitor wished to leave before the Jesuit came back to him; for he foresaw that if he asked the Grand Duke for leave to proceed against me he would refuse, and, as it would be necessary to report all to Rome, this would put the Pope in hostility to the Grand Duke, or, if his Highness acted differently, it would bring him into collision with your Serenity. His Excellency told me this out of the regard he bears me for your Serenity's sake, but begged that it might go no further, so that it might not appear as though *the Inquisitor were revealing the affairs of the Holy Office.* I was the most astounded man in the world when I heard this diabolical invention of the Jesuit, and after thanking his Excellency, I declared that this was the most malignant thing a man could imagine, for not only *had I no Englishman in my house*, but I did not know, nor had I ever spoken with, *a single person of that race* since I came here, about three years ago; this was the work of the *Jesuit*, and I could laugh at it and not trouble myself on that score, for it was absolutely false; and then it came from whom it came from, and the world knows how much cause they have to like the *servants of the Republic.*

On his Excellency's request I have said nothing to anybody, but I could not fail to report to your Serenity.

Florence, 12th November, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 12. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

368. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

A Transylvanian Ambassador has arrived. He comes to demand anew the declaration of Prince Stephan, who lodges with the English Ambassador.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 12th November, 1611.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Nov. 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

369. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

M. de Jacob finding that it was in vain to endeavour to persuade the Queen to proclaim the matrimonial alliance, endeavoured to persuade Villeroy to support a match with England. Villeroy was taken aback at this unexpected demand, and said he would convey it to the Queen. Three days later he met de Jacob and said that the Queen was pleased at the Duke of Savoy's confidence, but that she knew that the King of England was on the point of concluding a match in Germany and she did not wish to risk her reputation by preferring a request in vain. Jacob suspects the Queen of the design to thwart all the matrimonial projects of the Duke of Savoy so as to force him into a Tuscan match.

Paris, 15th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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Nov. 16.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

370. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

For some time England has been suspicious of a matrimonial alliance between France and Spain. The English Ambassador has been instructed to use all diligence to find out the truth. He has spared no pains and has frequently spoken with the King on the matter, as well as to the Ministers. He was told that there was no substance in the rumours; that all was merely intended to fill in the period of the King's minority. The King of England, far from satisfied with this reply, instructed his Ambassador at the Spanish Court, Digby, to make a formal proposal for the hand of the Infanta for the Prince of Wales. Digby reported great hesitation in the minds of the King and the Duke of Lerma; they pleaded the question of religion, and said they must get the Pope's leave. A long time was spent over this, and in the meanwhile every thing was done to gratify the Ambassador so as to divert him from his proposals; but he insisted. Lerma then told him that as his Master had not paid attention to the first advances from Spain, the Infanta was now engaged to France, but if he would be content with the second Infanta she would be given in marriage, with no difference made between her and the first, who would be induced to renounce her claims to succession. I have been told all this by a person of great importance whose close acquaintance I made in England, and who is passing through on his way from Spain. He tells me that the King of England, on receiving the Spanish reply, used very lively expressions to the Ambassador of Spain, and complained to the French Ambassador that the Queen of France, after all he had done for the quiet of her kingdom, should have gone so far without informing him. I know that the English Ambassador has complained to Villeroy, who has again denied the fact, but not so positively as at first. The Queen has ordered M. de Vitry, who is in England, to do all he can to pacify the King.

Paris, 16th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

371. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King was here this day week. The Spanish Ambassador had audience on Sunday and gave information about the death of the Queen; he endeavoured to demonstrate the good will of his Master. He received a quiet and brief answer, though some phrases were lively and indicated resentment. The King, nor indeed the Prince either, has not forgotten his annoyance. The Ambassador of France, and the Ambassador of the Archduke have been to the King, though I have not had time to find out what they did.

On Tuesday as a singular favour I spent the whole afternoon with their Majesties, the Princes and the Princess. I found all the Lords and Ladies of the Court assembled to congratulate their Majesties on this solemn anniversary of the day on which, six years

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ago, their lives were miraculously saved as from the Gunpowder Plot. I had only two words with the King while walking. I said that as not only mankind but also the heavens were showing their joy on this clear and lovely day, I too must add my congratulations in the name of your Excellencies. The King seemed pleased with the words and the feeling they conveyed, and said that that day six years ago you could not see the sun, the sky was all cloudy and there was a great darkness—this he said with energy. I replied that such an inhuman and impious plot deserved no better light. The Queen then came up and taking me by the hand insisted on my giving her my arm. That day the King and the Prince tilted at the ring, and so did many gentlemen of quality. While the fête lasted, which was till sundown, I was at a window along with the Queen, who showed me great attention. The King was on horseback most of the time and spoke with such affability that it was a marvel to see. He desired me to come down stairs and he showed me some animals he keeps. He made me walk with him and used expressions which clearly prove the esteem and love he has for your Excellencies. Finally I went back to the Queen and waited on her to her appartment, which is close to the King's; there I took separate leave of their Majesties, the Princes and the Princess and departed. Throughout the Queen's conversation I discovered a great desire that the King of Denmark should be successful; she praised him to the skies.

Sherley has not had audience, nor the Cha'ush his dismissal, since the King's return.

The Savoyard Ambassador will, to-day, be met by the royal carriages. He will be lodged and boarded as I said. I shall not omit any marks of courtesy. He will have audience at once, and they have already held some consultations on the subjects that he is supposed to be going to handle.

Paul Pindar, appointed Ambassador in Constantinople, left a few days ago, with a very small following. His Secretary and the rest of his household will leave at the beginning of next month on board two *bertons* laden with merchandize for those parts. His sudden departure is caused by the dissatisfaction which is felt with the conduct of the present Ambassador (Glover). From Pindar your Excellencies may look for the closest and sincerest friendship, such is his Majesty's will, well known to Pindar.

Since I was last with Lord Salisbury the King ordered Murray (*More*) to find out whether I had received satisfaction in the affair of your Serenity's subjects in favour of whom sentence had been issued; Murray came to see me, and everything was so arranged that with very little loss and in a month's time all the money would have been recovered, only a certain Bernardi, who says he is commissioned to act, came to an agreement without my knowledge, causing considerable loss. I have sequestrated the money and if I receive orders I will not fail to make the man who committed the error pay for it by refunding the loss, as is just.

London, 18th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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Nov. 20.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

372. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The most recent letters of Denmark are of the 12th of last month. They bring news that the King had garrisoned, with three thousand infantry, the town and Castle of Kalmar, and pushed on two miles into the island of Öland; there are no fortresses of any importance there, only one little one. The rest of the army has pushed forward to Helsborg, which they hope to capture; that would be a most important step, for then Gottenburg, a commercial town, must fall, and it is the only port Sweden has on the ocean. The King of Sweden has withdrawn far into his own Kingdom, and the King of Denmark has gone in haste to Copenhagen, his capital, whence he means to rejoin his army immediately. He has placed all the cities and fortresses he has captured in the hands of German or Scotch Governors; he has trusted none of his own subjects. This is a point of importance, and shows that he has higher aims than are generally seen. He has sent money to the States and expects to raise troops; he hoped to have the French regiments which were to have been disbanded. In spring the King will also be succoured by the King of England with four thousand men at least, two thousand English and as many Scotch. The Scotch commander has already been appointed, and the English commander will be in a few days. The Dutch Ambassadors who were in Denmark have reported to the Hague that their mission has borne little fruit, though they extol the kindness of the King, and the esteem in which he holds the United Provinces. They have also reported to Count Maurice and to Barneveldt the most secret aims and intentions of the King, which are, it seems, first to turn Denmark from an Elective into an hereditary Monarchy, and then to present himself as a candidate for the Kingdom of the Romans. As this war is now blazing, I will in two words explain the claims of Denmark and Sweden. Christian II., grandfather of the present King, was King of Sweden as well as of Denmark; but as his Government was distasteful, his subjects rebelled, and Sweden separated from Denmark and chose a King from among its own people, from whom King Charles is descended, as well as the King of Poland. Now the King of Denmark says that if his father did not know how to attempt successfully the recovery of his own, he both ought to and will do so. To-day there is news, viâ Hamburg, that the King of Sweden after retiring some miles inland suddenly pushed forward a part of his forces on light boats to the island of Öland, and established himself in it with great slaughter of the garrison, which was scattered. The Agent of Denmark has no news of this nor is there any confirmation.

The Protestant Princes of Germany hoped that the Elector of Treves, an old and infirm man, and the Elector of Cologne, hostile to Austria, would not be present at the Diet, and that they could therefore discuss more freely, but the Spanish, by promises and bribes, have persuaded both to attend; all the same those Princes do meet separately, and I am told that with a view to binding this Crown to the Union, the Princess will be asked in marriage for the Elector Palatine.

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The French Ambassador paid me a visit, and I did my best to find out his business and that of the Archduke's Ambassador as well; as far as France is concerned the ill-humour is dying away, for the Ambassador, on express orders from his most Christian Majesty, has given the King of England satisfaction on every point. The Secretary will leave at once for Scotland to pay the men-at-arms; that question is settled as the King desired, nor will the French have anything to do except to provide the money. One hundred thousand crowns of the French debt to this Crown will also be paid immediately out of money which is here ready, and there is promise of speedy payment of a large sum more. On the question of the marriage, the Ambassador also spoke to his Majesty's taste, and after an audience of a couple of hours he left the King if not entirely satisfied, at least partially appeased. As regards the Flemish Ambassador's audience there was nothing of moment.

There is news here of the misfortune which befell the Spanish *flotta* at the Djerbe (*Zerbi*); your Serenity will have heard of it by now. The Queen told the French Ambassador that she is wearing mourning for the Queen of Spain only because the Ambassador implored her to; this leads one to think that pressure may have been brought to bear on the King as well—but I do not assert this for sure.

Here they are systematizing their finance, and some ships have arrived from Virginia. The Savoyard Ambassador has delayed a day longer at Gravesend. The royal barges were sent to meet him, and on his arrival, which will be late, he will find the royal carriages waiting to take him to the lodging destined for his use. Two days later there arrived here a gentleman from Neuburg, and another from Brunswick. A deputy from the City of Hamburg has had an interview with the King on the subject of commerce.

It is desired that the differences between Neuburg and Deuxponts should be terminated amicably without coming before the Diet. This is difficult, but it seems that Neuburg is yielding somewhat, though the same cannot be said of Deuxponts, who is in possession. The King is exerting his authority to bring them to an accord.

London, 20th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

373. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

It is settled that Parliament shall be summoned in the Spring.

The Prince proposed in Council to fit out eight galleons. There were difficulties in the way, chiefly owing to the dearth of money in the Treasury. The Prince spoke to the King about the matter, but the decision is not yet known, though it must soon be taken, and they think it will end in two galleons being fitted out.

The four thousand infantry, half Scotch and half English, destined as reinforcements for the King of Denmark are to be commanded, the English by Lord Willoughby and the Scotch by Lord Dingwall. I have received confirmation of what I wrote to your Excellencies as to the King of Denmark's designs.

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The Duke of Radziwil's Agent is still here. The Agents of Neuburg and Brunswick have not seen the King yet. At the end of the month a Diet will meet in Holland. Some Protestant Princes will take part in it; they will consider how to carry into effect the deliberations of the Diet of Rothenburg.

The Secretary to the French Ambassador has gone to Scotland to muster and pay for a year the hundred men-at-arms engaged for the service of the King of France. In the Electoral Convention the Protestant Electors will do all they can to prevent them from proceeding to the Election of the King of the Romans. Spain will perhaps support Matthias.

The systematization of the coin will certainly take place, and gold will be placed on a par with French gold, which will be most convenient and will put an end to serious disorders; for eleven pounds in France and Flanders are only worth ten here, and therefore gold leaves the country and there is nothing but silver in circulation. Silver will be rated at a true proportion to gold and good results are expected.

London, 25th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

374. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of Savoy arrived late on Sunday. The following morning he had audience of the King in the Gallery; the Queen, the Prince, and the Duke of York were present. He was well received by the King, who detained him for a bit near a window, and then made everyone leave the Chamber; Lord Salisbury, the Queen, and the Princes remained in a corner. After about an hour the Ambassador's suite was again introduced, and kissed their Majesties' hands. The Ambassador presented a pard as a gift from the Duke. As far as I can gather, the upshot of so secret an audience was that the Ambassador excused his tardy return to this kingdom on the score of health, and was at great pains to eradicate from his Majesty's mind that bad opinion which he knew his delay had caused. He went on to say that in order to proceed more freely with the negotiations for a marriage between the Princess of England and the Prince of Piedmont, and in order to prove that he was not dealing in two quarters at once, the Duke of Savoy had called on the Queen of France either to proclaim the alliance concluded during the life of the late King or to set the Prince of Piedmont free to deal in England. The Queen, after holding out hopes and causing delays, had set the Prince free. The Ambassador did not conceal the fact that his Catholic Majesty had done all he could to induce the Duke of Savoy to place this matter in his hands, to negotiate through the Spanish Ministers and under the protection of Spain. That the Duke being so closely allied by blood to his Catholic Majesty, replied with formal words of thanks, but being the free Prince he is he had sent his Ambassador direct to his Majesty with assurances of his devotion. The following morning the Ambassador had an interview with Lord Salisbury, who left

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immediately for Theobalds where the King had gone the day before; on the evening of the same day his Majesty sent to tell the Ambassador that the next morning he was to come out to him. To-day the Ambassador returned to London and has had a special audience of the Queen. I have not had time to find out what answer he received from the King nor the true position of the affair. In my next despatch I hope to give full particulars. The same day that the Ambassador had audience I went to visit him. On my way I met the Spanish Ambassador, who had just been on the same errand. Ruffia gave me a letter from the Duke, which I enclose; in it he acknowledges the way in which I received Ruffia in Paris, of which he has made a favourable report by word of mouth and M. de Jacob by letter. The Duke declares his devotion to the Republic and announces his intention of sending a personage of importance to reside in Venice. Praises Barbarigo and Correr. As to his own negotiations he was reserved, but in the course of conversation he let fall words from which I gathered much of what I have now written. Further I gathered that the Queen of France had suggested a sister of the Grand Duke for the Prince, but found little sympathy. The Ambassador pointed out that as the House of Savoy was connected by marriage twice with the throne of Cyprus, once with the Emperor, and thrice with France and Spain, so the Prince, rather than marry a lady not of royal blood, would choose one of his own subjects.

All this the Ambassador said to the King and begged him to settle the question himself without referring it to the Council, some members of which were suspected of being gained over by those who did not desire to see the alliance concluded, and the Duke the obliged servant of his Majesty and his whole house.

London, 25th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

375. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Savoyard Ambassador informed the King of the vigorous steps taken by the Pope to upset the negotiations for a marriage between the Princess and the Prince of Savoy. His Holiness had written a brief with his own hand couched in very vivacious language; the Ambassador had brought a copy. His Highness, all the same, was resolved to serve and obey his Majesty. The Ambassador had thought, when he last left England, that the whole difficulty reduced itself to the question of religion, and now the Duke placed the entire question in the hands of his Majesty to be settled as seems to him good.

The Ambassador observed that his Highness having consulted theologians, it appears that the Pontiff might declare the marriage null, and difficulties might arise in course of time. It was but right that the Princess should enjoy liberty of conscience, live as she pleased and have some intimates about her, but the public preaching of the Protestant creed would rouse opposition—as his Majesty could himself see. The States of the Duke were for the most part in Italy and England was far off; with these and similar

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ideas the Ambassador laid the foundations for his proposals in his first audience. I do not know what answer his Majesty gave, but I know that it was inconclusive; and this negotiation will meet with many serious difficulties.

London, 25th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 27. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

376. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

After the meeting between the Duke of Savoy and the Marshal Lesdiguières the Duke held several Councils, but I cannot find out what they have decided to do as regards orders to Ruffia to proceed with his negotiations for the match with England. It is thought that he will not be instructed to suspend them, but only to retard any definite conclusion till an answer to the new proposals shall come from France.

There is lying in the port of Villafranca an English vessel which his Highness is endeavouring to buy, but there is a great dearth of money. An agent of Jacques Pierre has been here for many days trying to get eight thousand crowns due to Pierre on the ship he has at Naples. The Agent failed to get the money and left after entering a protest that his Highness would be held responsible for the damage that may accrue to the vessel with which Pierre means to put to sea in order to gain the money for her upkeep.

Turin, 27th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 29. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

377. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The death of the Duke of Orleans will hasten the conclusion of matrimonial alliances; for as a result, the supporters of the Spanish match have boldly approached the Queen, and, using a thousand spurs of fear and of safety, they have made efforts to induce her to defer the match no longer, representing it as the only true remedy for securing the peace of the kingdom during the King's minority. The English Ambassador aware of this action flew to arms again, and has renewed his complaints to M. de Villeroy, declaring that his Master did not resent the French attending to their own affairs, but he did complain of the secrecy with which they hid the matter. Villeroy I understand made his usual reply, which I have reported; he first of all denied, though coldly, that there was anything serious on foot; then he threw the blame on those who when, during the reign of the late King, the Princess was offered to the Prince of Wales, would not lend an ear. Finally, when the Ambassador complained that, trusting to Villeroy's word, he had informed his Master that no marriage would take place, the Minister declared that he had never given any assurance about marriages, but about alliances which certainly would never be concluded. I am told that at this reply the Ambassador flamed up, and ended by saying that his Master must view with great suspicion these negotiations,

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especially as he knew they were worked by the Pope, whose designs in uniting the two Crowns must always cause alarm. Villeroy did his best to convince the Ambassador that the Pope had nothing but a ceremonial share in these businesses—they were managed elsewhere—here by the Marchese Botti, without even the Spanish Ambassador taking a part in them. The Englishman, however, repeated his last observations and held his ground. He left Villeroy without even pretending to believe him. My informant who knows all that goes on, told me *that the Queen is in great perplexity. But by the person who advises her and now governs everything, she is urged to conclude and publish the matches; on the other hand she is held back by fear of danger which begins to loom ahead.* Even had Orleans not died she had made up her mind to keep negotiations open, but to defer the conclusion till the end of the King's minority. I, however, desired to sound the ground for myself so as to obtain as clear a view as possible of the matter; and finding myself with Villeroy, I seemed to discover that the matches of the King with the Infanta and the Princess with the Infante are considered on both sides as concluded. For Villeroy appears to attach the highest importance to the death of Orleans, and to think that this alone would compel the Queen to conclude these matches. He insisted that it was necessary to marry the King, and examining the parties he came to the conclusion that there was none other than the Infanta of Spain, nor any other match which was capable of rendering his minority secure and the kingdom peaceful. This match meets opposition in France among those who are now drawing incentives from Spain. He added that this match ought not to rouse suspicion in the friends of this Crown, for reasons of State outweigh all other bonds. All this in the mouth of so sage a minister who now governs all things, leads me to believe that they will conclude the match without heeding the resentment of England or the discontent in France.

Paris, 29th November, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Nov. 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

378. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Huguenots have begun to hold synods in the Provinces to protest against the answer to the Deputies from the Assembly of Saumur. They propose to send fresh deputies to the Queen to demand the right, without further leave, to convene an Assembly every year, and the right to admission to State offices.

The King of Great Britain, who hitherto has gone cautiously in this affair, now speaks more openly on their behalf. He has written to the Queen in support of the Huguenots and has ordered his Ambassador to show himself favourable if asked.

The Princes of the blood seeing the negotiations for the Spanish match so far advanced, complain that a matter of such moment is conducted by the Ministers only.

Paris, 30th November, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

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Nov. 30.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

379. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

News that the Duke of Savoy has gone to Susa to meet Lesdiguières. Jacob has recent letters from Ruffia, on his way to England; he is delayed at Flushing. Villeroy does not think the Anglo-Savoyard match will take place.

Paris, 30th November, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 1.
Collegio, Secreta, Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

380. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

It is many days since I came to pay my respects to your Excellencies. The reason is that I have been out of the city for some time, and after my return I have been waiting an occasion from England to allow me to come and perform this duty. Despatches have reached me, but they bring no other news than that his Majesty is well, and orders to greet your Excellencies in his Majesty's name, and to wish you the same good health as your most good and sure ally. Your Excellencies will learn this from his Majesty's letters which I now present.

"James, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Holland (*sic*, Ireland), Defender of the Faith, etc., to the Most Serene Prince and Lord Leonardo Donato, by the same Grace Doge of Venice and our dearest friend, Greeting."

Very grateful for recent proofs of regard for which the King has abundantly thanked the Venetian Ambassador, and doubts not but that he has so reported; still he desires to repeat them himself.

"As for Seymour, we take no account of him, as he is despicable both in goods and person; but we hold the matter of great moment on your account, for from such small indications we learn to know how much we may promise ourselves in affairs of greater moment. As to the other affair of Castelvetro we esteem your action highly and for the same reason; for it is not merely a proof of your good will towards us, but is a sign of your sagacity and prudence; as you were unwilling to submit that which belongs to your supreme authority to the inordinate appetites of those who, under cloak of Religion, desire to rush in where no question of religion exists. For the rest we beg you to be assured that it is far from our habit to desire to protect any one or any cause which might bring scandal to your religion. In all things that may furnish occasion to testify our gratitude we will most willingly return your affection.

Your most affectionate
James, King."

After the reading of the letter the Ambassador went on, "the King is a great Prince who desires to see words and actions correspond as is the case here, though elsewhere he has not found it so." On this point the Ambassador will say no more, as he knows that his Serenity is diligently informed of everything by his Ambassador at the English Court, who is beloved by the King and treated with the greatest confidence.

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Councillor Ruzzini, the senior and Vice-Doge in his Serenity's absence, replied that he was glad to see the Ambassador and congratulated him on his return.

The Procurator Sagredo, *Savio del Consiglio*, expressed their pleasure at the King's good health, and their satisfaction that he had been pleased to write. All that had been done and especially in the affair of Castelvetro had been done willingly, and they will always act so in all that may concern his Majesty.

The Ambassador said he always discharged the duties of this office and desired to serve the Republic. He added, that lately there had left Venice a Minister (Pindar) of his Majesty who is going to Constantinople, where he will remain on the King's service. I am aware that this gentleman is well known to many of your Excellencies, and as for various reasons he was unable to pay his respects, he has left me the task of presenting his excuses and his assurances that at the Porte he will not fail to show himself such a person as he knows his Majesty wishes him to be. While here he made provision of certain things to take with him, to employ them as necessity arose, and he wished to take the ordinary steps for exporting the goods, but I would not allow him, for besides that this matter affected the King's interest, I desired to bind him to your Excellencies by securing for him the usual privilege, which I beg you now to concede, and for which I shall be grateful.

The Procurator Sagredo replied that the moment his wish was understood the necessary orders were given; the matter had passed the Cabinet and would to-day come up in the Senate.

The Ambassador returned thanks and took his leave.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 1. Senato, Mar. Venetian Archives.

381. That to oblige the English Ambassador the undermentioned goods, which would have paid an export duty of one hundred and seventeen ducats, be allowed to pass out free, to be sent to Constantinople on his Majesty's service.

Coloured damascs - - -	yards	633
Coloured satins - - - -	„	457
Watered tabinets - - -	„	477
Coloured velvet - - - -	„	75
Cloth of gold - - - -	„	168

Ayes 177.
Noes 5.
Neutrals 5.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 2. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

382. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Four of the Council, appointed by the King, were present at the interview which the Savoyard Ambassador had with Lord Salisbury yesterday week; each word of his was written down, and so he was very reserved, and confined himself to the repetition of what he had said to the King the previous morning in fuller and more confidential terms. He wound up by saying that the Duke had

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sent him to treat with the King and to wind up in few words the negotiations for a match, which were already on foot. Lord Salisbury asked whether he was going to make proposals of marriage other than that of the Prince of Piedmont to the Princess Elizabeth. The Ambassador replied that having reported to his Master that a match between a Princess of Savoy and the Prince of Wales had been absolutely rejected—great Princesses by the law of nature and by common practice were to be asked in marriage, not offered—the Duke had given him a mission to deal only with the proposal for the marriage of the Prince of Savoy, for whom he asked the hand of the Princess.

Lord Salisbury went the same day to Theobalds, where the King was. Soon after the Ambassador was sent for and had an hour's audience of the King and more. It would seem that he left the King reasonably content; he supped with the King and the Prince that evening. In his Master's name he presented to the King several vases of rock crystal bound round with gold; his Majesty drank in one of them a health to his Highness and his whole family. Next morning the Ambassador had another audience of the King. It lasted about half-an-hour; he came out from it very thoughtful and soon after he took the road to return to London. This is what my informant, who was on the spot, and as near as he could get, told me. He stayed on a day longer in the hope of finding out something, but was defeated by the King's departure for Royston and the great secrecy with which this business is conducted. On Saturday the French Ambassador sent to tell me that the Queen had said to the Ambassadress that she believed the Ambassador of Savoy had had a final answer from the King, and would shortly leave, and that the Ambassadress was to tell her husband in the Queen's name. The Secretary who brought me this news added that the Savoyard had met with the refusal of the Princess' hand, but that the King declared himself grateful to the Duke, and laid the whole blame on the head of religion where all the difficulty lay. He then went on to talk about the death of the Duke of Orleans. He considered it a great loss for France, for although there still remains the Duke of Anjou, and thanks to his robustness the King may look for a long life, still both are mere children.

On Sunday the Ambassador of Savoy returned my visit. In the course of a long discussion I gathered that in the first audience of the King at Theobalds on Wednesday he excused himself for not having spoken to Lord Salisbury and the Lords of the Council the previous day on the ground that he had express orders from his Master to speak to the King, who was father of his children, and had a right to marry them as he chose. The Duke had sent the Ambassador with the fullest powers, and with orders that if it pleased the King he was to carry through the negotiation with the fewest but most sincere words; that he was not capable of negotiating with the five Commissioners, everyone of whom knew infinitely more than he did, and under the disadvantage of having all his words taken down, while only receiving the briefest answers. He then entered on the subject of his mission, declaring that in all things his Master was ready to obey the King; as regards

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dower, the Duke made no requests, nor on any other point. The Princess would be served and honoured in Piedmont precisely as was the Infanta and the other Royal Princesses married into the House of Savoy. As to religion, no violence should be done to her; she would live according to her conscience in her own apartment as seemed to her best with absolute freedom. Neither Jesuits, nor others, would not be allowed near her. All that seemed ample, nor did the King during the Ambassador's former visit, appear to desire more. During that first audience he received a most friendly reply and hopes of a favourable issue; but at the second audience kind words only. He has little confidence in these Ministers, though he thinks the King well-disposed. I also found out that the Ambassador thinks that if the King of Spain re-marries it will be with a daughter of Savoy; this is based on what Prince Filiberto writes.

On Saturday a courier arrived from Spain, and on Monday the Spanish Ambassador set out to find the King, who is some miles beyond Royston,* so that it will take him three days to get there. He will be back next week, and I will endeavour to find out his business and also that of Savoy.

London, 2nd December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 2. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

383. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Last week there arrived from Holland several posts together; they had been delayed by the wind. The Dutch have sent an Embassy to Constantinople to negotiate the liberation of Dutch slaves and to open up trade in Turkish territory. They hope to obtain the same privileges as are enjoyed by other Princes; also to establish Consulates at Aleppo, Cairo, and the other ports belonging to the Turk. The Dutch Ambassador resident here has informed Lord Salisbury of all this. He said that as the Dutch had on other occasions negotiated for the liberation of slaves through the French Ambassador and sometimes through the English, always without result, they were driven to come to this resolve. He added that as the United Provinces, after the conclusion of the truce, were no longer able to enjoy those advantages over Spain which were theirs at first, and as they desired to preserve intact the number of their ships and seamen, it was necessary for them to open trade in the Levant and the Mediterranean, besides the Indies and the Ocean. The English merchants who trade with Turkey are very much disturbed; they foresee the decline of the London market; it will not be surprising, therefore, if the Ambassador Pindar raises opposition at Constantinople; he is paid by the Company, as were all his predecessors. The Dutch have eight vessels ready, and almost fully laden, for Constantinople and other places belonging to the Grand Signor. Here they are very anxious to keep the trade of the country flourishing, especially on the point of exports; an order will shortly be issued providing that on

* At Newmarket.

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imported goods so much shall be deducted in other goods and only twenty-five per cent. in money. (*Qui si pensa molto al tener florido il comertio di questo Regno et particolarmente a quello che guarda l'estratione, et si publicheranno tosto edite perchè dalla mercantia che viene portata qui si cari altra mercantia et solo* 25 *per cento in denari.*) Next week four ships will sail in consort for Constantinople, two of them, so the Secretary of the Ambassador Pindar informs me, carry the value of a million of gold; that is to say, four hundred thousand in tin and the remainder in cloth and kerseys. The other two vessels have cargoes of the value of forty and fifty thousand crowns apiece. With these vessels the Secretary of Pindar will also sail. He has begged me for letters of recommendation to the Governor of Zante, where he has much money due to him. In this I promptly gratified him, thinking it to be to your Excellencies' service, as he will easily have occasion to be of use, for in the case of Pindar's illness this person would act as Ambassador and will always be of weight with him. He is going out with the full intention of succeeding to the post, otherwise he would not have left the Prince's service.

During the last few months the Dutch have begun to send a large quantity of spices and other merchandise from the Levant into Germany; this is a serious blow to Marseilles and also to London, but less so. The merchants of the India Company expect to make great gains by the discovery of the new route that goes into the China Sea (*mar del Cathaio*), near Japan; the climate is a temperate one and suitable for the placing of large quantities of cloth and kerseys—that cannot be said of Java and Sumatra, where they have hitherto traded, for there the climate is extremely hot, and the natives only use the lightest and cheapest stuffs, made in the country; this means less gains, while the voyage, the cost, and the risk are greater.

They continue to study the change in the nominal value of gold; making it equivalent to the value in France and Flanders; but they fear if gold is enhanced silver will leave the country, as merchants would make large gains. They, therefore, are planning to regulate both gold and silver.

It is generally thought that in a very short time the trade of the United Provinces with all parts of the world will multiply, for the Dutch are content with moderate gains and are richly supplied with excellent seamen, ships, money, everything which used to be the specialties of Venice when her trade was flourishing. The leading merchants here point out to me that the trade of Venice has gradually declined because the Venetians have almost voluntarily abandoned navigation in great part, investing their money in estates; and so the number of ships has fallen off and the skill of her sailors likewise; while here and elsewhere they have acquired knowledge and experience. Then the peace of France and England and the truce of the United Provinces have dealt the last blow. As matters now stand there is not either in England or in Holland a *berton* so small that she could not out-fight the biggest Venetian, and weather a storm with greater surety. The original cost here, also, is far lower than in Venice. They also attack the build of Venetian craft, which they say is ill-suited to face either the sea or the

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pirates. They declare that twenty English sailors would show more fight than forty Venetians. They conclude by saying that all these disorders might be remedied in time. The Venetians have to make a voyage of far shorter length than the English, and through a sea that is less infested by pirates, who usually lie between Corsica, Sardinian and the Straits; if Venetian ships are often plundered it is because they won't fight, and if they meet with buccaneers they surrender, whereas others resist. If they chose at Venice they might make ships of a build which experience has approved; that all the advantages of the other nations the Venetians too might enjoy, as they are the fruit of industry, but Venice's geographical position is hers and hers only. (*Si tiene communamente che in poco tempo debbi multiplicare il negotio degli Stati con tutte le parti del Mondo perchè si contentano di poco guadagno, abbondano di ottima marinarezza, di buonissimi vaselli, di denaro, et di tutte quelle conditioni che sollevano esser proprie di Venetia mentre era il comercio in maggiore fiore, che mi dicono questi principali mercanti esser andato a poco a poco declinando per haversi quasi voluntariamente in molte parti abbandonata la navigatione, impiegando il denaro in fondi, et così è andato a scemando il numero de vaselli et la peritia de marinari, mentre qui et altrove si è andato prendendo cognitione et esperienza; che poi la pace di Francia, di questo Regno et la tregua dei Stati hanno dato l'ultimo crollo. Che nel stato presente non vi è qui o in Ollanda così piccolo bertone che non superasse ogni gran nave di Venetia combattendo, et non fosse più sicuro in ogni fortuna di mare; che all'incontro costa meno in queste parti di prima compreda un gran galeone che non fa a Venezia una nave meno che mediocre. Oppongono alla forma delle navi, che essi chiamano di taglio inoportuno per resister alli mari et a Corsari. Affermano che faci maggior fatione vinti marinari di queste parti che non fanno quaranta di quelli. Concludono che a tutti questi disordeni potrebbe la Vostra Serenità remediare con un poco di tempo. Considerando che i vaselli Venetiani non hanno da fare la terza parte del camino che questi fanno, che passano per mari meno infestati da corsari, che insidiano d'ordinario principalenente la Sardegna et Corsica fino al Stretto; et se vengono depredati molti vaselli delle Eccellenze Vostre nasce perchè non combattono, et quando incontrano in corsari restano loro preda, il che non può dirsi degli altri che fanno resistenza. Che volendo si potrebbe a Venetia fabricar vaselli di quella forma che mostra l'esperienza esser migliore; che tutti li vantaggii che godono al presente le altre nationi possono goder anco i Venetiani perchè sono effetti d'industria, ma che quello di Venetia quanto alla vicinanza è suo solo et proprio.*)

London, 2nd December, 1611.

After writing I hear that there are letters from Denmark of the 11th of November addressed to the Danish Agent. The news is that the King maintains himself as master of the country, but owing to the heavy rains he can not undertake any enterprise. Brederanz has returned to Copenhagen from camp and brings news that the Swedish ships still keep the sea, so the King of Denmark will not recall his as he intended to do for the winter. The writer says that he supposes much news has been brought by a Danish

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gentleman, who, however, has not yet arrived. There is a letter for the Queen, who is at Greenwich, whither the Danish Agent will go to-day to kiss her hand. The King of Sweden has recovered the island of Ötland; this news is now certain.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 3. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

384. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

They have sent a painter from here to Leghorn to paint the Earl of Warwick's ship, and they are going to victual her.

An English ship has put into Leghorn, commanded by one of the Captains they were expecting. He declares that others are not far behind. It is not known yet whether they will fly the Duke's flag or not.

Reports of English and Turkish ships about.

Florence, 3rd December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 4. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

385. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Confirmation of rumour that the Duke at his interview with Lesdiguières did not meet with the satisfaction he desired. He sees that all this is meant merely to feed his hopes without committing France to any new obligations. Consequently he has sent instructions to Ruffia in England to press on with the negotiations for a marriage.

M. de Leonis,* who is appointed French Ambassador to your Serenity, arrived here on Tuesday evening.

An English galleon, which was lying at Villafranca, has been allowed to depart. The expedition of the Marchese d'Orfè has been put off for want of money.

Turin, 4th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 5. Consiglio de' Dieci, Parti Secrete. Venetian Archives.

386. To the Ambassador in Constantinople.

Paul Pindar, sent by the English Merchants with letters from his Majesty to Constantinople, having recently reached this city has had an interview with our beloved noble Giovanni Basadonna, as you will gather from the enclosed copy of the report made by Basadonna to the Chiefs of this Council, on whose authority we now send you the said copy for your sole and simple instruction, in order that on the arrival of the said Pindar at the Porte you may keep a watchful eye upon him and note his actions, not only on all the points mentioned in the said report but on all else that may seem to you worth our knowing, and you will send us a distinct and full account as you may deem expedient for our service.

Ayes 16.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

* ? Leon Bruslart.

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The reason why the above-named Pindar was sent to Constantinople he declared to be for the removal of the English Ambassador and his despatch home as a prisoner on the charge of being, at the suggestion of Anthony Sherley, more a minister of Spain than of England.*

(*Il Sr Paolo Pinder espedito da' Mercanti Inglesi con lettere di quella Maestà a Costantinopoli, essendo ultimamente capitato in questa Città, ha tenuto col diletto nobile nostro Giovanni Basadonna ragionamento in conformità di quanto intenderete dalla copia dell' esposizione fatta in scrittura dal detto nobile nostro davanti 'l Tribunal de' i Capi del Consº di x col quale siamo venuti in resolutione di mandarvi la sudetta copia per sola et semplice vostra instruttione, affinche gionto che sia esso Pinder alla Porta possiate star occulati et osservar le sue attioni concernenti non sole le cose contenute nella suddetta scrittura ma ogn' altra che vi paresse degna dell' intelligenza nostra per darcene distinto et particolar' aviso secondo che guidicarete espediente per servitio nostro.*

——/—— 16 ———— 0 ———— 0

La causa della espeditione del Pinder sopradetto a Costantinopoli disse esser per rimover dal carico l'Ambasciatore d'Inghilterra, et mandarlo prigione per essersi a suggestione di Antonio Scierle fatto più ministro di Spagna che d'Inghilterra.)

Dec. 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

387. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The people of Denmark already begin to doubt the proceedings of their King and to understand that he is aspiring to make the Kingdom elective.† Dr. Jonah (Carisuis), who was here some months ago, is expected shortly. The support promised by his Majesty will consist of six, not of four, thousand infantry under the command of an English and a Scotch Baron.

In Holland they have settled the way in which they will raise the money to meet their debt to this Crown. They have reduced their forces by four thousand men, and may perhaps reduce by another four, so that their army will consist of twenty-two thousand men about.

The Prince of Wirtemberg is expected daily. He is coming about the question of the confederation between the King and the Princes of the Union of Hall, and may be to say a word about the Princess for the Elector Palatine.

Sherley is in receipt of some crowns a day from the King. He has opened his negotiations with the Earl of Salisbury, first as to sending arms against the Turk; this is not listened to; second about sending ships into the Persian Gulf to open up commerce. He promises large quantities of silk, but here they find that it is not of a sufficiently good quality, which is the reason why these

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1611-1618, *p.* 168: "Sir Thomas Glover comes to town and holds his head as high as though there were no charge against him." *p.* 170: Sir Thom. Glover is confident of escaping blame. *p.* 175: Sir Thos. Glover has cleared himself of all charges. On Oct. 13, 1614, he was granted the office of Collector of Fines in Ecclesiastical causes, for life.

† Foscarini must mean "hereditary."

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suggestions have not taken root in Spain, Florence and elsewhere. However, as this is a matter that affects merchants, Salisbury has concluded nothing, and the question will remain open for a while.

The value of gold has been raised ten per cent,* and the export of silver forbidden under severe penalties. The benefit of this enhancement will go to the holders of gold, and in the future will bring some profit to the Treasury and to the King.

To-day the four *Bertons* about which I wrote were to sail for Constantinople, as they will have done if the wind serves.

A ship arrived yesterday from Danzig with news that the King of Sweden is dead—news confirmed from other quarters. His body has been taken to Stockholm. There are great dissensions as to the succession; it is claimed by a son of the King and by the King of Poland's younger brother, named John, who possesses an entire Province, with the title of Duke, and has many supporters. If the news of this death be true—and I send it as I hear it—it will be of great consequence, for the King of Poland will not let the occasion slip, and the King of Denmark with an army on the frontiers and a fleet at sea could easily make great strides.

The Envoy of Brunswick has presented letters to the King from his Master; so too has the Envoy of Neuburg; the one about the City of Brunswick, the other about his disputes with Deuxponts, against whom Neuburg is exasperated on many scores, nor can he endure that Deuxponts should appear at the Electoral Diet with a vote that is prejudicial to Neuburg's interests.

The Countess of Shrewsbury is just as she was. There is no word spoken about the Earl of Northumberland, and so his case, which was already desperate, seems to be improved, thanks entirely to his Majesty's mercy.

M. de Vitry is dead,† many miles away from here and close to the King, who is much distressed, and desired that the body should be taken into the Church and Royal Chapel, accompanied by all the Earls, the Duke of Lennox and other great personages of the realm at Court. That took place this morning. He will lie in the Chapel Royal for three days, and will then be escorted by ships to France. On entering the church the body was met by sixty Ministers and upwards. All this is told me by the French Ambassador, who added that he had not omitted first to have mass celebrated for him and the office sung, for de Vitry died as he had always lived, a Catholic, and as a Knight of the Saint Esprit he was bound by oath and rules. I have also heard that before his

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. 1611-1618, *p.* 92. Notes by Salisbury, of the proportion of alloy to be mixed with the bullion for current coin; and on the danger of export of gold owing to its value being proportionately greater than that of silver.

Nov. 23. Proclamation concerning the alteration of prices of gold, and fixing the value of different current coins. Birch, "Court and Times of James I," 1, 147: "The angel and sovreign to eleven shillings and the Jacobite piece to two and twenty;" *p.* 153: "All our English and Scottish pieces are enhanced after the rate of two shillings in the pound."

† He was at Royston. On Nov. 16th he was ill, but Dr. Mayerne did not think it serious. On the 20th his life was despaired of. On the 22nd the King expresses his satisfaction at the arrangements made to embalm and despatch de Vitry's body. On Dec. 17th Thomas Mills reports that he attended de Vitry's corpse to Dover "fearing the clamorousness of his creditors. He never came to England with enough money for his expenses."

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death that gentleman burned several letters and papers. He was sent by the Queen of France on the pretext of helping the King at the chase, but it is thought he had some mission which he did not fulfil.

London, 9th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

388. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Two days after the Spanish Ambassador left London for the Court a courier arrived from Spain; he had made the journey in eleven days. He pushed on and caught up the Ambassador on Thursday evening. On Friday the King caused the Ambassador, who had just arrived, to be waited on. He took him out to the chase along with the Prince and gave him a hare, and that was all. He had a very long conversation with his Majesty in a private chamber, and then set out on his return here. He arrived on Monday evening quite content, as far as one could see. On Tuesday another courier arrived express from Spain, and the day before yesterday the Ambassador had a long interview with the Earl of Salisbury and other Lords of the Council. The subject of their conversation is not known as yet, except that he asseverates that full satisfaction and damages will be given in the case of some ships and merchandize belonging to subjects of this Crown and of great value. All the same, he must have dealt with matters of greater moment. What all these couriers-express may mean we do not know as yet, but it is conjectured that they have to do with the vigorous and indignant representations made by the English Ambassador in Spain about the answer given to the demand for the Infanta's hand for the Prince of Wales in execution of the promise given. I am told that the Ambassador of Spain thought himself lucky to have had to deal with the King apart from the Council. I trust with time and diligence to arrive at the whole story. During the first days that the Ambassador of Savoy was here his suspicions were aroused by the rumours of a possible marriage between the Princess Elizabeth and the King of Spain, and he begged the Spanish Ambassador to tell him the truth, for if this were the case he would withdraw, and if his Catholic Majesty should take from the Prince of Piedmont the chances of this match, it was to be hoped that he would find the Prince another bride not less well-born. The answer was that the King was still young and might quite well take another wife, but it would never be any other than a daughter of Savoy, of that he might be sure. The words which the French Ambassadress reported to her husband as having been said by the Queen were spread abroad by many and came to the Queen's ears; she showed annoyance and declared she had never used them.

London, 9th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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Dec. 9.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

389. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Savoyard Ambassador after the despatch of my last has not had an audience of the King nor an interview with the Earl of Salisbury. I know that the reasons adduced by the Ambassador to persuade the King on behalf of the Princess to come to some kind of compromise about the free exercise and the preaching of the Protestant doctrine in Turin have alienated the minds of many, and are producing results quite the reverse of what was intended. The difficulties which are keeping in suspense the mind of the King and of his advisers are that the King desires the free exercise of her religion for the Princess and her Court in the widest sense, and from this he will not move, pleading both his prestige and his conscience; the objections which the Pope might raise to the validity of the match, which might give an opportunity to France or Spain to bring forward Prince Filiberto or some younger brother in their own interests; and this Kingdom being so far off the King might not be in time to remedy the mischief. As the Princess is heir to this Crown in the case of the death of her two brothers, the Prince would have to live here according to the Anglican rite, and a promise and declaration on this point is required. In his audience at Theobalds, when these objections were raised, the Ambassador suggested that two Potentates might be chosen to find out a remedy; that the Duke would obey promptly, and he urged that in this way they could act most securely and justly. His Majesty replied courteously and seemed inclined to agree in part. The Spanish Ambassador in his audience of this day week mentioned the matter to the King, who showed esteem for the Duke. The Savoyard Ambassador had audience of the Queen yesterday; he asked Lord Salisbury for an audience of the King and was told that his Majesty would be here next week and that he had better delay his return, as I believe he will do. Meantime he has sent a gentleman to his Highness; he did not employ the ordinary post, which was not going by Turin. The confidence between the Ambassadors of Savoy and Spain may perhaps indicate the confidence between their Masters.

London, 9th December, 1611.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Dec. 10.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

390. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador made his excuses to me for having delayed to communicate to me the substance of his negotiations with the King on the question of marriage. He said he had omitted to do so not on account of any diffidence but because it became those who were treating of serious matters to maintain silence and then to communicate to friends, at the right moment, what had taken place. He then told me that for some time past the Spanish by means of their Ambassadors had given the King of England to understand that if he would show a disposition to unite the Princess of England to the Prince of Spain they would give their attention to the proposal. His Majesty on this invitation had chosen as his Ambassador my informant, to come to Spain to treat this matter and immediately on his arrival he set to work, speaking to the King and to the Duke of Lerma, from whom he received

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most courteous replies, and hopes were held out that the match might be concluded. While, however, he was endeavouring to reach that end he was continually held in suspense. *Then came orders from his Master to make a pressing representation to come to a decision and to issue from uncertainty. The Duke of Lerma gave him to understand that his Majesty was very anxious to come to terms and to unite himself with England on account of the esteem in which he held so great a sovreign, but as he was also being urged very pressingly by the Queen of France and the Pope to embrace an alliance with the French Crown he could not do less than attend to this, though there was no need to disturb the negotiations with England, for in Spain there were other sons and daughters with whom a marriage relationship might be concluded on that side as well in order the better to establish a perfect understanding, towards which the King would willingly contribute. After that reply the Ambassador took no further steps, as he seemed to discover here very little inclination to the match.*

He then went on to point out how important was this union between France and Spain, and how it behoved all the great Powers to prevent its effectuation in their own interests; for it was certain that if the Spanish could secure peace for ten years they would grow formidable for the world at large, to the serious prejudice of those who inwardly bore them little good will. Furthermore, this matrimonial alliance would imply as a consequence a defensive and offensive alliance, which could not fail to be injurious to other States, as the Queen of France shows herself very much in favour of the designs of Spain. He assured me that he thought it very difficult to upset at present the concert for this union; all the same the King, his Master, would not fail to make representations to certain Princes in his confidence with a view to delaying the negotiations, and he hopes for some satisfactory result, which he would confide to me in further detail on the return of one of his suite from England. Anyhow his Sovreign had no reason to fear, for the forces of his Kingdoms were such as to enable him to defend himself against any one who attempted to injure him; all the more so as he was now endeavouring to protect himself from any conceivable disturbance by allying himself with the Protestant Princes of Germany, whose Ambassadors were already on their way to England for that purpose, besides the union and alliance which his Majesty had with the States of Flanders (sic, that is the Dutch).

I warmly thanked the Ambassador for his courteous communication, which I thought was my due as Minister of the Serene Republic, which professes so singular a regard for his Master.

The Ambassador then said he did not know what steps the Duke of Savoy was going to take on the action of his Majesty in expelling his Ambassadors from his Court; this was a step usually adopted only in case of declaration of war. *The Duke was a hot tempered Prince, and readily embarked on enterprises. The King however was inclined to this alliance, which he was negotiating by means of an Ambassador.*

The French alliance is generally considered settled. At first it was managed by the Florentine Ambassadors. It is now generally stated that the Princess will renounce all her claims on this Kingdom in case of the failure of the male line, as she is to marry the King of France, whose elder sister is to marry the Prince.

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I deal very intimately with the English Ambassador, and where your Excellencies' interests are concerned he shows a very lively good will, declaring that he is so instructed by his Sovreign. I know that he corresponds with the English Ambassador in Venice. As he has spoken so freely with me it is necessary great secrecy should be used in Venice, lest I should lose the fruit of his confidence if anything leaked out.

Madrid, 10th December, 1611.

[*Italian : the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec. 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

391. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Queen proposed to Savoy first a Florentine and then a Mantuan match; the Duke showed no satisfaction; he took time for his reply, and said he must consult his son and wait the return of his Ambassador from England. Villeroy, replying to the complaints of the English Ambassador, said that he should wait until he was told that the Spanish match had actually been concluded.

Paris, 14th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 16. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Corfu. Venetian Archives.

392. Girolamo Contarini, Governor of Corfu, to the Doge and Senate.

Enclosing report of the capture of a vessel of Curzola by a pirate *berton*, which came out of Vallona.

Corfu, 16th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

393. 29th November, old style.

Costandui Sundra, of Santa Maura, master of the ship that has lately come from Valona laden with salted eels and small fish, deposed that on Friday last, the 15th,* there arrived at Valona a *berton* belonging to buccaneers. She had on board sixty Levantines and Turks and forty English and French. She put into Valona for biscuits. When victualled she sailed. On Friday last, the 22nd, we learned that the said *berton* had captured a Venetian vessel off Sasina. She was laden with wine and oil and cheese. Some Levantines boarded her and ran her into Valona, where she lies at present; but the *berton* has not been seen again. He left Valona on the night of Tuesday last, and the captured ship was still there untouched. The Levantines themselves declare their prize was a Dalmatian, and that on the appearance of the *berton* her crew had deserted her, going off in the ship's boat.

[*Italian.*]

* He means Friday fortnight.

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Dec. 18.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

394. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

I have learned from a person of sense and position that the Marchese d'Orfè at first proposed to sail to the Indies towards Canada (*sic*), but that he gave up this idea, and now proposes to go privateering against the Turks. Neither design is considered likely to prove of profit.

Turin, 18th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 20.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

395. Francesco Donado, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Enclose a report on the capture of the Venetian vessel "Bonoma e Valnegrina" in the waters of Sapienza by pirates from Tunis flying a flag with three crescent moons and three swords. The report is signed by Nicolo Cigala, merchant and passenger.

Zante, 20th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 20.
Senato, Terra. Venetian Archives.

396. That the presents made by the King of England to our beloved noble, Marc' Antonio Correr, Cavaliere, on his return from that Embassy shall, in sign of our complete satisfaction at his good and right honourable service, be freely left to him.

Ayes 159.
Noes 7.
Neutrals 3.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 20.
Senato, Terra. Venetian Archives.

397. That to the faithful Christoforo Suriano, retiring secretary to our beloved noble, Marc Antonio Correr, Cavaliere, late Ambassador to his Majesty the King of England, the present made him by his Majesty be freely left.

Ayes 169.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 3.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 23.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

398. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have found out, in great part, what all these couriers-express have brought to the Spanish Ambassador, and as I am bound to furnish well-founded information to your Excellencies, I will begin by explaining what is necessary to make the matter clear. The courier sent by the King and the gentleman sent by the Ambassador reached the Spanish Court almost at the same time. The first conveyed instructions to the English Ambassador to make lively representations on the answer given to the request for the hand of the Infanta for the Prince of Wales, and the other took letters setting forth the

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serious resentment which was felt here against the King of Spain and the Duke of Lerma and stating the reasons which induced the Ambassador to reply as he had done to the Council and to the King. The letter closed with a declaration that it was now more than ever necessary to give some satisfaction to the King and to the Prince, and to scatter pensions and gifts among those who could to some extent lessen the disgust and foster goodwill.

The English Ambassador in Spain carried out his orders with great warmth and with good results, as he found the minds of the Spaniards disturbed by the vigorous report of the Spanish Ambassador in England. The English Ambassador loudly complained on behalf of certain subjects of this Crown, with protests and threats. He was promised every satisfaction on that point, and the courier was despatched, who reached England on Saturday, the 28th of last month, and who brought some instructions on the subject of the match. Soon after the gentleman sent by the Spanish Ambassador was re-despatched to England. He made the journey in eleven days, and reached this country on the 2nd of this month; he followed the Ambassador who, two days earlier, had set out for the Court, and caught him up on the way. This gentleman brought instructions that the Ambassador was to open negotiations for a match, and this he did in the long and secret audience he had. It is said by those who know that he broached the question of a match with the Prince, and suggested the Princess for the King.* He enlarged on the esteem in which this Crown is held, and declared that the desire to bind both by an alliance was still alive; as a further proof he showed his instructions; he added that if an accord could be reached on the question of religion all the rest was easy, and lay in the hands of his Majesty himself. On the seventh the Ambassador was back in London, and the day following he sent to Spain a report of what he had done, and a statement that the King of England was ready to negotiate, and perhaps some other secret point. That same day he received orders to distribute some pensions. The day following he promised to the Council every satisfaction in the case of the merchants; he said that a special Envoy would be sent, and meanwhile he would not say a single word in favour of his Master's subjects, who demand a large sum. After the Council the Ambassador had a secret interview with Lord Salisbury and Lord Northampton on some of the points submitted to the King, and then he despatched a courier to Spain. There is talk of sending an Ambassador Extraordinary on the excuse of conveying condolences for the death of the Queen. It is said that Lord Southampton has excused himself, and perhaps to avoid talk they will content themselves with commissioning Secretary Cottington,† who was for long in Spain with Cornwallis

* *See* Birch, op. cit., I., 152. Chamberlain to Carleton. "The cause of his (Spanish Ambassador's) journey to Newmarket . . is not thoroughly discovered, only it was to commune somewhat to the King's own secrecy. Yet there is some little light given that we should not be too forward in the match with Savoy, for somewhat might be propounded hereafter touching that lady, which were not yet fit to be treated of."

† *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1611-1618. *p.* 86 : Grant to Francis Cottington of the office of Consul for Seville, Andalusia and Granada. *p.* 99: "Dec. 10. Warrant to pay 100 pounds to Fras. Cottington, about to be sent into Spain."

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and then alone, and is very fully informed. He will leave by the post in a couple of days. It is rumoured that he is going in the interests of the merchants and will stay some time at Court, and will then go to reside at Seville with the name of Consul but with greater authority.

I am told by a person of quality that the English Ambassador in Spain, at the same time that he received orders from the King to speak with resentment, also had a letter from the Prince in his own hand complaining, though quite gently, that he could not have the Infanta as had been promised him; but my informant added that sharp language from the King and soft language from the Prince had produced a lively result.

The Spanish Ambassador here has reported current talk very fully. He has not concealed the fact that the King of England, continuing his sports and pastimes, could easily, with three or four hundred thousand crowns, levy war on the States, fleets and subjects of his Catholic Majesty, and his subjects would willingly vote him seven and eight hundred thousand crowns, as they did in the days of the late Queen. If leave for reprisals were granted an infinite number of English would fit out ships at their own expense. It seems that these considerations, which are fully realized by his Catholic Majesty, have brought about the reopening of marriage negotiations. He exalted the forces of this Kingdom. The same person pointed out to me that if a matrimonial alliance took place between these two Crowns, France would have to look to herself, and if it does not it will be difficult to keep the peace. This is the opinion of many persons in authority and is based on weighty reasons. The Spanish Ambassador, who came to see me on Sunday, told me that his master would take every opportunity to gratify the King of England; he said a union of blood might quite well take place and that his Catholic Majesty, who refused to treat of a French match unless the French agreed that the Infanta should renounce her claims to the succession, would probably use different language here.

London, 23rd December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

399. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Savoyard Ambassador has continually sought audience of the King and the Earl of Salisbury, but has not had either. It is said that the answer will be deferred until the courier comes back from Spain, and they desire first to have something definite from that quarter; besides the representations made by Maurice and Bouillon on behalf of the Palatine retard the proposals of the Duke and raise much opposition. On Sunday the Chevalier Badata was here from his Highness to inform his Ambassador first of all as to what passed with Lesdiguières at their meetings. He says that the Marshal first informed him in the Queen's name that the reciprocal matches between France and Spain were concluded, and then proposed for the Prince of Piedmont a daughter of the Grand

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Duke or a daughter of the Duke of Mantua. His Highness added that if he had to bow to accepting a lady not of royal blood he would certainly choose the daughter of Mantua, as she was proposed by the Queen of France, with certain places in the Monferrat for dowry, which would suit his Highness very well, as they lie in the middle of his States. Orders are sent to conclude the matter here as quickly as possible, and to send full accounts of the negotiations. The Ambassador has sent the gentleman back, and I am told that he has informed the Duke that from the Spanish Ambassador's manner and from the fact that he does not communicate all his steps, a doubt arises whether his Catholic Majesty—just as he wanted the Princess of France for his son—may not want the English Princess for himself.

The Ambassador of Savoy after the arrival of Badata has announced that he has a fresh commission and pressed for an audience, and it is thought that finally Lord Salisbury, after having excused his Majesty on the ground of his being so far away and insisting that it was not suitable to grant audience to Ambassadors of quality in a little room such as that in which the King was at present confined with a cold, will give the Ambassador an opportunity of seeing the King. The Spanish Ambassador says he does not understand why the Savoyard is pressing for a final answer; he says that the marriage of a daughter is a serious matter and that great Kings should not be hurried over such affairs, but that all should go quietly and orderly, and he implicitly approves the delay that is taking place here. The Lords of the Council have pointed out that the King is deeply attached to the Princess, his only daughter, and would have to think well over the matter before he let her go to Italy; and on the point of religion and the freedom to exercise it, greater security is required than the word of the Duke. The Ambassador replies that as the Duke has asked for the Princess without asking any dower but the protection of this Crown, to break his word would be to lose that protection, to render this Crown hostile and to bring about results quite contrary to what he intended in asking the Princess' hand. The Ambassador will certainly see the King one of these days, but I am informed from a sure quarter that he will get no definite answer, and if he presses for it he may get a negative or little satisfaction. Yesterday the Ambassador went to the Prince and presented him with some horses in the Duke's name. He is also making presents to various gentlemen, and is still entertained at the King's charges, at an allowance of eighty crowns a day to those who supply him.

In the interview between the Duke of Savoy and Lesdiguières, his Highness received some satisfaction in the promises made by the Queen that she would hold him dear and would support him in his need. This was the main cause of the interview, for the Duke thought that the enterprise of Sassello should warn everyone what Spanish designs were. The Savoyard Ambassador, either on orders from the Duke or on some suspicion which he has conceived about the Spanish Ambassador, would not now be unwilling to reconcile himself with the Ambassador of France.

London, 23rd December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

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Dec. 23.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

400. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After the death of the King of Sweden, which took place on the 17th of last month, we have no further news from that Kingdom, nor from Denmark, but only confirmation of my last news. They are anxiously watching the turn of events.

The Spanish Ambassador tells me that the Spanish Ambassador in Germany is endeavouring to induce King Mathias to renounce the Crown of Bohemia to the Emperor as the sole way to remove all roots of disagreement. This would not injure Mathias in any way, it would merely be an act in appearance, for he will immediately or very shortly be elected King of the Romans. The three Catholic Electors are already resolved, and the hope of having gained even Saxony is great; but even if that hope vanished, all Bohemia in conjunction with the three Electors would be sufficient to put Mathias in the saddle. This will be done soon, so as to prevent the possibility of an heretical Prince, who is aspiring to the title, from gaining strength and prestige. From all this one can easily see that the Spaniards are aware of the King of Denmark's designs.

The support which the King will give to the Confederates of Hall in time of need, turns out to amount to four thousand foot and five hundred horse. Information has been sent to Holland, so that the States General may also settle the amount of their support, which they were to do only after the King of England had declared his. The King has instructed his Envoys that if the Diet which is to be held in Holland should be transferred to Heidelberg, they are to carry out their orders. The Dutch have sent an Ambassador to the Archduke Albert to complain of certain disorders on the confines, and to declare that if remedy is not applied at once they will take it as a hostile act.

Fourteen great ships are lying at Amsterdam ready to sail to the East Indies. They are resolved to fight all the Spanish ships that they find in those parts, and to inflict all the damage they can upon them. The Archduke with the Infanta, is at Marimont and enjoys the quiet.

The Secretary of the French Ambassador came back three days' ago from Scotland, where he paid the hundred men-at-arms, to whom he made promises of further pay in a few months.

The Viceroy of Ireland* is here. The vessel that was sent after the pirates with a pardon has at last caught them up off the Spanish coast. Some goods were recovered, and it is hoped that fifteen ships belonging to pirates will be induced to return, but this is not certain, and the means are held to be of no very good example and of doubtful consequence.

The India Company and the Turkey Company are treating with Sherley about trade.

On Saturday I had an audience of the Queen at Greenwich. She kept me a long time in conversation; and in discussing the marriages she told me some of the things I have already reported. To-morrow

* Sir Arthur Chichester.

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I will visit the Prince, who returned the day before yesterday, and then the Duke of York; the Princess is with the Queen, and the King will be in London this day week.

London, 23rd December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 26. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Corfu, Venetian Archives.

401. Girolamo Contarini, Governor in Corfu, to the Doge and Senate.

Reports the capture of Venetian ships off Sapienza by Barbary pirates. The Castle of Zante has also sighted two other very big *bertons* belonging to pirates. Nothing can be done, as the commander of the squadron is ill of fever.

Corfu, 26th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 28. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

402. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador told me that the real cause of annoyance to the Earl of Salisbury and the Princes was that the French should have gone so far with the Spanish match without informing them. The English Ambassador attempts every means to break off the Franco-Spanish match; he has pointed out what a gain it would be to the Catholics in England to have a Catholic Queen. He told me that Count Ruffia's negotiations are proceeding without much hope of success. He was staying on merely till the courier came back from Savoy.

Paris, 28th December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

403. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Monday the 26th the King was at Theobalds, and the next day he told the Savoyard Ambassador that he would have audience to-day at Theobalds; but late yesterday he recalled the instruction, and said that to-morrow he would be here and would gladly see the Ambassador. The answer he will get will be thanks to the Duke for the esteem in which he holds this Crown, and that in a short time an Embassy will be sent with a fuller reply; and thus the King will endeavour, by flattering the Envoy, by keeping him to dinner and by giving him presents, to send him away satisfied as far as may be. They will await what may come from Spain and perhaps from some other quarters, and in Spring they will send an Embassy to Turin with the instructions they may think most advantageous. This is what they intend at present, but it is not so definitely settled but what it may change.

The French Ambassador discoursing to me about the relations between the King of Spain and the Duke of Savoy told me that the Duke was doing all he could to attach himself to France, and at his interview with Lesdiguières *he sought for a pension* and to be

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bound to France. For certain he received a favourable answer. His Catholic Majesty is not satisfied with the Duke, *he objects to the Duke having had dealings with other Princes to the disadvantage of Spain.* He added that while the Duke was treating here for the hand of the Princess, he was treating also for a daughter of Mantua. *The negotiations with other Princes to the disadvantage of Spain refers perhaps to the representations which the Duke made upon the Spanish occupation of Sassello, at which period M. de Jacob spoke vigorously to the Queen, and obtained the interview with Lesdiguières, in which he was bound to touch on the subject of defence only.*

The couriers that arrived from Spain also brought news about the dismissal of the Savoyard Ambassador. But at this distance from Court it is very hard to arrive at the truth.

London, 30th December, 1611.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec. 31. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

404. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador told me that during these last few days the Archduke Albert has begged the King for his support with the Protestant Electors in the election of the King of the Romans, which is to take place in the Spring. The Earl of Salisbury did not say what answer, if any, was returned. The answer given on other occasions is known. The Spaniards have certainly raised the Archduke's hopes by sending the Marquis of Lancester to Brussels. On the other hand the Spanish Ambassador told me that his Catholic Majesty greatly desired the election of Albert, as that would have the effect of making his only sister a Queen, though he would also be satisfied by the election of Mathias, whom the Spaniards have induced to renounce to the Emperor the Crown of Bohemia and Silesia, and that with the firm intent of making him King of the Romans.

The King of England's answer to the Archduke Albert will be delayed for some days, and then constructed in the way that best suits the interests of this Crown. Perhaps they may desire the King of Denmark's opinion.

The Dutch Ambassador or Deputy has arrived in Brussels, and must have had audience by now. I hear of some discord and even words which passed between Prince Maurice and Barneveldt, but they have made it up.

The English Ambassador in Holland is much put out because the States first promised to dismiss and to punish that Professor of Leyden (Vorstius) who published the book condemned by the King, and now leave the matter in doubt. He has used some strong language; but this too will be settled.

No news from Sweden. Gustavus, son of the late King Charles, is thought to have a good chance of succeeding to the throne, as he is loved by the army. The Prince in Council has dealt with the reform of the Navy and proposed some new orders on which he has several times spoken at length. His Highness every day adds to the number of his servants. He courts those of the King's

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Chamber and his Majesty's greatest favourites; he looks graciously on everyone and so everyone is his most devoted servant, and he can manage the King's most intimate and make them speak to the King just as he thinks best (*accarezza quelli della Camera del Rè, et i più favoritti della Maestà sua nè guarda alcuno che di buon occhio onde ogn' uno le è devotissimo, et potrà disponer et far parlar i più intimi al Rè come le torna meglio*).

Every day lately the Virginia commission has been sitting to carry out the despatch of people and new ships.

The Prince as Patron* of the North-West passage intends to send out four ships to explore. Hopes are very high, and it is thought that it will be a blow to Spain. There are those who tell the Prince of the discovery of a continent much more handy and much richer than Virginia. The Prince listens graciously and guides all his actions towards lofty aims. (*Pensa il Principe come quello che ha la sopraintendenza nel viaggio breve trovato ultimamente per passar nell' Indie, di mandar quattro vaselli per accertare, come seguirà ; le speranze sono grandissime et tengono debbi esser un colpo importante alla Spagna. Vi è chi ha detto a S.A. di haver scoperto un continente più oportuno et ricco della Virginia. Ascolta il Principe gratamente et incamina tutte le sue attioni ad altissimi fini*).

There are new seeds of ill-will in France, especially among Huguenots, but if their prayers are granted all will end peaceably.

London, 31st December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 31. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

405. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

A new Ambassador has arrived from the King of England. He took eighteen days from Venice. As far as I understand, the King is not pleased that his Ambassador here should make such long insistence at the Porte for the restoration of Prince Stephan to Moldavia, as this disgusts the Grand Turk and his Ministers. The King of England has taken this step at the request of the King of Poland on behalf of the Prince Constantine's interests in that Province. I have visited the new Ambassador and he seems to me very courteous and desirous of a close connection with your Serenity's Ambassadors. On my departure he told me that his Master had said "I have nothing to do with the King of the Turks; I send my Ambassador to him solely for the protection of the merchants my subjects residing in his State. Although I am not a Papist I charge you to assist in every way the needs of Christendom." The late Ambassador is loaded with debts and greatly dejected, both on account of the pressure from his creditors and because he has been dismissed from his post.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 31st December, 1611.

[*Italian ; deciphered.*]

* Birch "Court and Times of James I." p. 153. "The Prince is become Patron and Protector of this new discovery."

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1611.
Dec. 31.
Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

406. Francesco Donado, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Reporting the presence of Museli Rais, the pirate, off Coron, where the Venetian ship "Vidotta" is lying under the fort, but in dread of a night attack, as appears from the letter of her master asking for succour.

Zante, the last day of December, 1611.

[*Italian.*]

1612.

1612.
Jan. 2.
Collegio, Secreta, Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

407. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and said:—

Wishes the Doge and the Cabinet a happy New Year. The King is especially attached to the Republic and is bringing up his sons in that same spirit. The Ambassador recognises that he has always been well treated.

The Doge replied in terms of compliment.

The Ambassador remarks that this goodwill between the Republic and the Crown of England causes some who are either envious or suspicious to say that it is a fruitless friendship and a useless union of minds, seeing that the two powers are so far apart; they talk of it as a theoretical union which can never become practical. Those, however, who are wiser, who have read history and noted the course of events, consider that this is a friendship at once sincere and stable; for the Republic has never received from the Crown of England any rebuff, nor any displeasure, and this cannot be said of other Princes; but it might even be said that when the Republic had the whole world against her, from England she had clear proof of her friendship, for England considers the interests of the Republic as identical with her own. The policies are the same in both States, the King is in the best of dispositions, such as none of his predecessors displayed, his power is ample, for now the kingdom of Scotland is united to England, and so he can easily lend aid to his friends, and this Republic, as being among the most intimate, can always rely on his utmost assistance. I trust the occasion may never arise; but the world is full of change.

The Doge replied that those who call this friendship fruitless do not know how easy it is for the wings of friendship to reach its object, how easy for friends to unite even in the face of serious difficulties. Although it is true that England is far away from Venice, yet it is evident that English ships come here with ease. The voyage which would cost six months for others the English perform in forty days;

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and so it would not be so difficult for us to receive the fruits of this friendship, should occasion require. Nay! we preserve in our archives the lively memory of favours received from that Crown, and also from his Majesty's predecessors. We therefore consider this friendship highly fruitful, and we are convinced that we shall certainly receive the like friendly services in the future, should they be required.

The Ambassador said "I fear to be tedious, but this topic is so pleasant that I should never weary of dwelling on it. To be brief I will merely say that I trust never to see this friendship diminished but rather increased, if increase can be looked for where the fullness has been reached." Although he had already returned thanks for favours received, yet, as his Serenity was then absent owing to his indisposition, from which he is now happily recovered, the Ambassador renews his acknowledgements for the honours paid to the English Ambassador (Pindar) on his way to Constantinople; he is charged to do this both by his Majesty and by the Ambassador himself, who declares that in all places he will be the devoted servant of this Serene Dominion.

The Doge replied that they had done very little for the Ambassador. It was always their intent to shew favour to his Majesty's Ministers and Representatives. The Venetian Ambassador at Constantinople knowing the intention of the Republic, will put himself in relation with the English Ambassador. The Doge knew that Pindar was to leave for Constantinople but did not know he had left. The Ambassador said that certain considerations for his Majesty's service had rendered it undesireable to divulge his departure. He must be at Constantinople by now.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 5. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

408. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Christmas Eve a solemn Mass was sung at the Spanish Embassy. On coming out a certain Sir George Freer (*Frier*), doctor, and some others were assaulted by pursuivants and royal officers. Freer was arrested and the others fled for refuge into the Embassy, from which a number of armed men came out and freed the prisoner. The rest of that night a large number of men and women stayed in the Embassy to avoid a collision. Six days later the same pursuivants meeting Sir George elsewhere made a rush to seize him; he drew his sword, and encouraged by some other gentlemen who were with him, offered resistance; others came up to his support, and the pursuivants were either wounded or put to flight or forced to jump into the river. This event has annoyed him who rules. The Ambassador declares he will complain to the King of the violence used at the doors of the Embassy; on the other hand it is said with probability that the King, urged on by the Bishops, will tell the Ambassadors clearly what his desire is in the matter of admitting so many persons to hear Mass in their Embassies. In any case I will be guided by what I know to be your Serenity's intention, and I hope I shall be able to serve God and your Excellencies as well.

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On Sunday, the first day of the year, the Savoyard Ambassador had audience of the King. He was admitted to the Privy Chamber and no one else was present. The sum and substance of the Ambassador's first remarks was merely to ask for an answer, and the King's reply was that he had a great regard for the Duke, and had thought much about the way in which certain important difficulties might be overcome. That the mission of Count Ruffia was a proof of affection and esteem to which he would reply by sending a special mission to Turin; that the Duke would then find a convenient way to get rid of the opposition which at present acted as a hinderance or impediment to the negotiations for a match between the Princess and the Prince of Piedmont. The Ambassador returned thanks to his Majesty, and added that perhaps he was in treaty with others, not mentioning Spain, which, perhaps, he did not dare to do, but specifying the Elector Palatine. The King declared that he had no definite negotiations with the Elector, who had however informed him that if he were not disdained by his Majesty, he would supplicate for the hand of the Princess. The King said that to this message he had sent no reply as yet, nor would he send one as long as negotiations with the Prince of Piedmont were on foot. The Ambassador furthermore enquired when his Majesty's Embassy was to leave, to which the answer was that it would follow Count Ruffia almost immediately. And when on the topic of dealing with other parties, the Ambassador remarked that the Duke in order to treat with this Crown in all due devotion and sincerity had first demanded a definite answer from France about the match arranged by Henry IV. between the Prince of Piedmont and a French Princess, a match which was subsequently confirmed by the Queen, and thus lost all hope and broke it off finally. All the rest of the audience which lasted for an hour at least was employed by the King in compliments. He said he desired to see the Ambassador more than once before he left; that he must come to dine the day of his departure; in short he did all he could to send the Ambassador away content.

The Ambassador reported the substance of this audience to the Duke. Three days ago the Ambassador received some cases of crystal vases and a good many silk and gold webbs to present to the Princess in the name of the Duke and of the Prince. The Ambassador will not leave for eight or ten days at the soonest; he has to visit the Queen, the Princes and the Princess, and to have an interview with Lord Salisbury; then he will call on the other Ambassadors. I will endeavour to find out who is to be named for the mission to Savoy; the choice will be made before Ruffia leaves. I hear that he wrote very briefly as he is soon to be in the Duke's presence, when he will supply what is wanting by word of mouth. There are those who think that his Majesty will really name an Ambassador but that he will not be sent, nor are there wanting pretexts first for delaying and then for preventing the mission. This match is opposed on all hands, although the King is not so far away from it; however, it seems that unless things change there is little chance of its taking effect.

The day before yesterday one of the Princes of Wirtemberg was here;* he has been long looked for. I do not know for certain

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Dec. 31, 1611.

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what his business is, but rumour says it has to do with the Union between this Crown and the Confederates of Hall, and the demand of the Princess' hand for the Palatine in the name of all the Protestant Princes. The Prince has not yet had audience.

London, 5th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 6. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

409. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Saturday, the last day of last year, an Envoy from the King of Denmark arrived and immediately presented letters to their Majesties, urging the dispatch of succour. The day following this Danish Agent (Carisius) saw Lord Salisbury, who, without allowing him to speak, declared that he knew the reason for his coming. The King will make answer in two or three days; the troops were being got ready; in short, in a few words the substance was excellent. The Agent has orders to provide money for the levy, and for the purchase of ships, as they intend to increase the fleet. Other letters of the 15th of last month bring news that Gustavus and John of Sweden, who at first were opposed to each other, are now, by the influence of the Queen, mother of one and mother-in-law of the other, fully reconciled; but this cannot last, as John desires absolute equality in all things and the royal government cannot contain two. The Danish Agent told me in strict confidence that the King, his Master, will support the weaker of the two, and in this way may easily make himself master of the whole. In order to draw him I said that it would be well if Denmark were an hereditary Kingdom. He replied that it is absolutely necessary, and that it will be made one. Meantime they are occupied with the question, then he suddenly checked himself on the verge of even more important statements. However, he had said enough to let me see that they are arming and waiting till Gustavus and John come to blows, when they will seize their opportunity; they are plotting against the liberty of Denmark and wish to make it an hereditary Monarchy as is Norway. Such are the designs of the King of Denmark, though he is also a candidate for the election as King of the Romans; but owing to the great enterprise in which he is engaged, he cannot give his full attention to that business. Spain which is fully alive to all this has completely won all the Catholic and, may be, some of the Protestant Electors by large remittances of money to Germany, and by subtle artifices. She insists on the inconveniences in the Empire, and brings into view the necessity for a King of the Romans; she declares that her sole aim is the universal welfare; she fosters hopes in each party and presses on the Election.

No news from Sweden since the death of the King, for all news from that quarter must pass through Denmark, and reaches us only when and as the Danes choose, whatever reaches the Danish Agent I shall hear in large part, as to that end I have won his confidence. As war is now ablaze in that quarter and likely to be fed by succours, I will briefly state the position for the information of those who have not a perfect knowledge of those distant parts. The Ambassador gives a brief sketch of the Royal House of Sweden.

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On New Year's day I had an audience of the Prince. Talking of the Duke of Savoy he said one must admire him greatly, for situated as he is between France and Spain he has managed to preserve his Sovreignty, he draws large emoluments from Spain, and if he spreads out in that direction he will come in touch with France with whom he has an understanding. He concluded that he could not draw much profit from a Savoy match, as he would have to depend upon a foreign sovreign rather than upon his father or brother-in-law.

He praised the Duke's magnificence and vivacity; the Prince said very little about the Spanish Ambassador's suggestion of an Infanta for his Highness, and showed a suspicion that this might be a distasteful topic and one of which a full comprehension was lacking. I praised his Highness in fitting terms, and in truth he deserves all praise; I have noticed that spirits athirst for glory are pleased with praise as a testimony to their worth; and when I told him that in no century, and certainly not in this, could there be found his superior, he showed his pleasure in a few modest words. He professed attachment to your Excellencies, and bade me convey it. He enquired after your Serenity's health.

Some days ago the plague broke out in a house close to the Flemish Embassy, and only three doors away from this; a man died; they have put the cross (*biglia*) on it as is the custom with infected houses. This does not rouse in me excessive alarm, nor does it hinder that devoted service which is my duty towards your Excellencies.

London, 6th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 6. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

410. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

I have found out some points of importance in regard to the Savoyard negotiations which I now communicate. At the second audience which the Ambassador had, knowing that the doubts raised as to the validity of the match, the authority of the Pope, and the difficulties which might arise—all of them raised in order to induce the King to be content with a limited exercise of religion for the Princess—had produced the very opposite effect, the Ambassador now changed ground; he suggested an appeal to two sovereigns as mediators. His Majesty listened, and seemed satisfied and held out hopes. In the audience of the following morning he added further that the Pope, on the interposition of Spain, was not so far removed from granting a certain freedom in religion to the Princess and her suite. The King listened, but gave no favourable reply, merely formal words, so that the Ambassador went away very dissatisfied. The King asked the Spanish Ambassador if it was true that his master had spoken about the matter at Rome. The Ambassador replied that the King of Spain had said a word in the Duke's favour at Rome, and had promised to do the same here; but matters were now in a different position, and his Majesty would have an opportunity to make a better match for his daughter now that the

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Queen of Spain was dead. He did not say this on the King's orders but still these were the ideas of the Duke of Lerma, and he showed them set forth in a letter from the Duke.

The Savoyard Ambassador in order to support what he had said, showed to the King's Ministers and perhaps to the King, a passage from a letter addressed by the Savoyard Ambassador in Spain to the Duke; it is dated 18th May; also an original letter from the Duke of Lerma to Prince Filiberto, dated 30th June. Lerma told the Savoyard Ambassador that the King of Spain held the Pope's pledge to assent to the marriage of the Prince of Piedmont in England; the letter from Lerma declared that the King of Spain approved the marriage of Prince Victor with the Princess of England, nor was there a more suitable match, and the Duke was charged by the King to say so. I have seen both the passage and the letter. I am sure your Excellencies will keep this secret. With these instruments the Ambassador has endeavoured to do that in which he has not succeeded; for it is one thing to say that the Pope will assent to the match, and another that he will permit free exercise of religion and of preaching the Protestant doctrine in Italy. Talking to the Spanish Ambassador, he told me that it was true that the Pope gave it to be understood that he would assent, but always on condition that the Princess became a Catholic; than on no other condition could it be thought of; neither his Master nor the Pope would ever allow it; that one who calls himself heir to Spain cannot speak otherwise, nor could a Catholic of nine hundred years, like the Duke. I asked if the King knew this; he said that he had not told him as he had not been asked; but I am told from another quarter that the Ambassador had given these assurances to Salisbury and to Northampton, and possibly to the King. The Spanish Ambassador speaks in a tone quite contrary to that of the Ambassador of Savoy, and has done so from the first day to the last.

What the King said to the Savoyard Ambassador was that he should tell the Duke he must make it clear that the Pope will approve the match and suffer free exercise of religion and that the Duke must pledge himself to some great Sovreign for the observance of the conditions. I hear on good authority that from certain words of his Majesty the Savoy Ambassador has conceived the idea that if the Duke, without the Papal consent, would grant liberty of rite and give such security for the observance of his pledge as could satisfy them here, then the King would consent.

I now think I have given your Excellencies a full account of all that the Savoy Ambassador has done since his arrival.

London, 6th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 8.
Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

411. GREGORIO BARBARIGO, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the DOGE and SENATE.

No news about the matrimonial negotiations in England. His Highness still intends to send out the Marchese d'Orfe with various

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ships. He has sent eight thousand ducats to Naples to Jacques Pierre to pay what was owing on Pierre's ship, which he intends to join to the others.

Turin, 8th January, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 11. Collegio, Lettere, Venetian Archives.

412. To the Pasha in Aleppo.

Announces the appointmeut of Gerolamo Morosini to succeed Francesco Sagredo as Consul for Syria.

Ayes 22.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

413. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

After the publication of the order against the Jesuits they appealed to the Nuncio, pointing out the injury done to the Apostolic See by the order. They insisted that he should secure the withdrawal of the order from the Queen. The Nuncio promised to do so if the Jesuits would try first; so Father Cotton went on the 29th of last month to the Queen, and throwing himself at her feet implored this favour, playing on all that could touch her feelings. At the request of Parliament there was present at the interview Servin, a liberal and frank personage, who opposed Cotton, and maintained the justice and utility of the order, destroying Cotton's arguments; he replied boldly to Cardinal Gonzaga, who was present by an understanding with the Jesuits and spoke in their favour. The next day a meeting was held in the Nuncio's house and it was resolved that he should make lively representations to the Queen and use every effort to cancel the order, which dealt a mortal blow at Pontifical authority. The Nuncio went at once to the Queen and preferred his request with much heat, he grew so warm about it that he went the length of saying that the *Arrêt* was a proof of the separation of the kingdom of France from the Church of Rome, and from its obedience to the Pope; if the interests of his Majesty demanded this he begged to be told so, but if, as he believed, this was not the case, then he besought the cancelling of the order, and that so grave and scandalous an injury to Papal authority should not be tolerated. The Queen was amazed at such language and replied that France had ever been the eldest son and bulwark of the Church; Parliament was its proper council, and Parliament did not act on its own judgement but was governed by the Sorbonne, the greatest theological school in Christendom. The Nuncio left with this reply and went to the Princes who support him; and with the help of the Cardinals Gonzaga and du Perron, they succeeded in obtaining a modification of the decree. They will not be called on to sign the four declarations which take away from the Pope all temporal power over

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Princes, and abolish the seal of confession in cases of *læsa Majestas*. This is a serious blow to the position of the Jesuits. Father Gontier will be prosecuted for his attack on Parliament.

Paris, 11th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

414. ZORZI GIUSTINIAN, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Lesdiguières arrived yesterday. He was met by a great company. With him comes the Colonel Allardo sent by the Duke of Savoy to conclude what had been agreed to in the interview. Something will be done for the Huguenots, on whose behalf the English Ambassador has orders to speak.

Paris, 11th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

415. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Sunday, the eight of this month, the King desirous of showing some honour to the Savoyard Ambassador invited him to dinner. That day his Majesty was served in State by all the Knights of the Garter who were then in London, with their collars on and their robes and richest jewels. There were present Earls and other persons of title in great numbers, and each one vied with the others. The Earl of Pembroke gave the King to drink kneeling on the ground. The Duke of Lennox walked before the cup with a wand in his hand and made three profound bows. The Viscount Cranborne, son of the Earl of Salisbury, brought the napkin; the Server served on his bended knees; the royal dishes were brought by the principal Knights, and passed from hand to hand to the Server. The Ambassador was served by Esquires. In the hall, where his Majesty dined, rich was the decoration; a sideboard loaded with silver gilt goblets was erected, and reached to the roof, and another in the shape of a pyramid piled up with gold and jewels of inestimable value. While his Majesty dined, a concert of viols and voices and other instruments was heard from a neighbouring chamber, most graceful harmony, but low so as not to interrupt discourse. The King spoke long about the Republic, remarking that she once owned the Kingdom of Cyprus, the Morea, the Arcipelago, Greece, and had spread as far as Constantinople; that she still possessed the Kingdom of Candia and many other States; she was still great and had been greater. The Ambassador replied that if the Republic possessed less in Greece she held far more than ever in Italy, and was very powerful in those parts. The King showed some curiosity to know what it was that the Republic possessed in addition, and the Ambassador answered that Sir Henry Wotton, who had been with your Serenity, would be able to explain this. Wotton accordingly approached, and the King proceeded to ask him various questions. The conversation then turned on Genoa and the form of that Government; and so the time passed in such discourses. Sir

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Henry Wotton bore himself very well, and showed great devotion to your Excellencies, but he revealed some resentment that at his departure he was not treated in the same way as the Ambassador of France. When the Illustrious Correr was here he spoke excitedly on this topic, and has done the same with me. This was reported at the time, and my duty requires me to report it now. I do all I can to win the confidence of Sir Henry, as I know that he is the only Ambassador who has been with your Excellencies who is well informed of your power and greatness and is in a high degree of favour with the King; his Majesty pays great heed to what is said by those who are well informed and are his ancient servants as Wotton is.

After eating, the King retired, and desired the Ambassador's company and kept him almost the whole remainder of the day. *He told the Ambassador in confidence what the Spanish Envoy had communicated to him touching the King of Spain and the Princess, which I have reported.* The King said that the person he designs to send as Ambassador to the Duke is Lord Hay; that when once the difficulties, which are three, are removed, he promises to proceed to the stipulation of the contract. Over and above what the Ambassador will report to the Duke by word of mouth, the King talked familiarly on various topics, of which we know nothing, and which, may be, were of no moment. The Ambassador having nothing further to do here took his leave, both of the Prince of Wales as well as of the Princess and of the Duke of York. The following day he said adieu to the Earl of Salisbury, and visited the Spanish Ambassador. To me he showed himself very well content. He declared that he had never desired to conclude a treaty but only to secure the despatch of a mission so as to give the Duke the opportunity to treat in person. When his Highness married the Infanta of Spain his Catholic Majesty sent the Baron Sfondrato to receive confirmation of what the Savoyard Ambassador at the Spanish Court had said, and to clinch the negotiations; and so in this case the King will act. His Highness will thus be enabled to negotiate in person. I have not thought it prudent to make any reply to the Duke of Savoy's letter to me, which I sent to your Excellencies, though I have abounded in terms of courtesy to the Ambassador; and assured him that the Duke will always find in the Republic the good will and affection which a father bears to a son, than which none can be greater or more sincere. *I recalled to the Ambassador that at the time of Henry IV. I was instructed by your Excellencies to tell his Majesty that it would be as well to give the Duke some satisfaction, and thanks to your authority with the King, this was done.* The Ambassador replied in terms of great modesty towards your Serenity. He promised to report to the Duke the good feeling he has found. He then went on to express the satisfaction which his Highness takes in the Ambassadors of Venice and even now in the illustrious Barbarigo. The Duke's Secretary also spoke to me in the same sense.

The day before yesterday the King sent the Ambassador a very rich present of silver gilt goblets, and it is said that the presents made to the King and the Princes exceeds the value of sixty thousand crowns. Yesterday on a sudden resolve the Ambassador took his

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departure, so that I have not been able to return his visit. Yesterday I was with the Spanish Ambassador, who told me that one of these days he will be received in audience to thank his Majesty for the favours shown to the Ambassador of Savoy and also about the affairs of his Catholic Majesty. Here it is thought that this Savoy match is quite impossible, the difficulties insuperable, and the despatch of a mission uncertain; if it does go it will be charged on the points I have mentioned and this in short means a breach of the negotiations; maybe the Duke will have embarked on other negotiations before the mission starts.

London, 13th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian*; *the part in italics deciphered.*]

Jan. 13. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

416. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The brother of the Duke of Wirtemberg had audience on Saturday the 7th of this month. He also saw the King later and gathered that his Majesty had done his part as regards the Confederation of the Princes united at Hall. He announced that he accepted the leadership of the Union, he ratified all that had been resolved in the late Diets, and pledged himself to assist in case of need, with four thousand foot and five hundred horse. He has ordered his Ambassador in Holland to take part in the Diet which is to meet to give effect to the resolutions already taken. The Diet will meet in Holland or at Heidelberg, nothing therefore remains but to summon the Diet, and that the other members should do their part. It does not appear that Wirtemberg has any important charge. The meeting of the States General has separated. They have begun to raise the contributions destined to extinguish in part the debt to this Crown. The Dutch Ambassador has made some payment, and within three weeks he will discharge the whole quota which fell due in October. The Ambassador has had a very long audience of the King, and has struggled hard with the Earl Salisbury about that Professor of Leyden whom his Majesty insists on seeing punished, which the States are not willing to do without hearing him. Judgement can be passed on him only by the States General which appointed him; such is the constitution. An arrangement has finally been found which will satisfy his Majesty, and judgement will be published in March, when the States will be again convened to please his Majesty. Before proceeding to judgement the opinion of the Protestant churches will be heard. The King's intention is excellent. He fears that this professor is sowing seeds of Arianism, which is not merely heretical but infidel. But as I said an arrangement has been reached, and the day before yesterday the Dutch Ambassador sent a full report on the business. Last week the French Ambassador paid fifty thousand crowns, as promised by their Most Christian Majesties, towards the extinction of the debt due from France to England.

The King has made no reply to the Archduke's request for support in the election of the King of the Romans. It will be put off some days yet, and then it will be the same as was given on other occasions.

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The King is asking for a loan of one million, six hundred thousand crowns from the London merchants; he promises prompt repayment. This sum is being apportioned according to the faculty of each merchant. Payment has already been called for, and will take place if not entirely yet in great part. It is not known what his Majesty means to do with this money, opinions vary, and the order does not explicitly state the objects; it merely says for urgent and weighty needs. The merchants who have claims for indemnification against Spain have formed themselves into a company. So far they demand two hundred thousand crowns for goods and ships plundered by subjects of his Catholic Majesty at sea, and even, in part, they say by the King's paid officers. This claim will be vigorously presented in Spain. The King is determined that they shall be indemnified, and if this is refused he hints at permitting reprisals against Spain which would be the beginning of other events.

Rumour still runs that Parliament is to meet in May.

After dealing with various points affecting the kingdom the King will renew his demand for an increase of the royal revenue. I must report that his Majesty continues to honour this house with gifts of roe deer and stags.

London, 13th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 19.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives

417. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Danish Envoy has letters from his Sovreign, dated the 16th of last month, with news that in Brandenburg and Brunswick troops were being raised; and beyond doubt it is certain that in spring the King will push forward into Sweden with all his forces. In spite of the bitter cold many experienced soldiers urge him to push on without delay, so as to catch the enemy in confusion and uncertainty. They adduce many arguments in support of their contention; the facility of passage, now that all the rivers are frozen; the colder days are the brighter days, and the army can keep itself warm by marching during the day and at night by great fires for which the forests yield the necessary wood; now, however, the King leans to the opinion of the majority, which is to move in spring. The Envoy has orders to provide one hundred pieces of light artillery, and he is doing so.

The Spanish Ambassador discussing with me the question of the King of the Romans indulged in the same considerations as I have repeatedly represented to your Excellencies. He says that after Mathias, who is old, with a young wife, there is Ferdinand, in praise of whom he said much; the King of Spain is always fully satisfied with him. I touched on the question whether his Catholic Majesty might not think of one of his own sons who are growing up, but the Ambassador replied that Ferdinand was almost like a son of the country, and is greatly esteemed and beloved by the King of Spain.

News from France that the Princes are very ill pleased, especially those of the blood; but generally in the cities and everywhere there is a determination to keep the peace.

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A Savoyard gentleman, relation of the Marchese Lolin, was at Brussels some days ago. He is styled and treated as Ambassador. He communicated the marriage of Nemours, and then mentioned some other business. He is staying on on the plea of private business, as he has a Flemish wife. The Archduke wishes that this Ambassador had never come to him, and desires to be rid of him as soon as possible.

London, 19th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 20. Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

418. GEROLAMO SORANZO, Venetian Ambassador in Germany, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Death and character of the Emperor. An English Ambassador is close to Prague. His coming is awaited with curiosity. His object is to sound the Protestant Electors, and to unite them with a view to taking the Empire out of the hands of the House of Austria.

Prague, 20th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 20. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

419. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Tuesday week the Spanish Ambassador asked audience of the King to complain of what took place at his house on Christmas Eve, and of the small respect shown to it. The King sent an answer that if he wished for anything he should apply to the Council, which would await him next morning and would listen to him. The Ambassador, however, did not go; he excused himself on the plea of indisposition. He insisted on an audience from his Majesty, and declared that he had business which he could confide to the King alone; and so it was granted him on Saturday late. He apologised for the inconvenience to which he was putting his Majesty; and said that as the leading Councillor was the Archbishop, who is the cause of all the trouble, he could not have spoken frankly, nor could he look for other answer than such as an interested party would give. He dwelt on his own position in the case; he insisted that he could not have shown more prudence; he enlarged on the licence of the pursuivants, and attacked the Archbishop. The King's answer showed, beyond doubt, both annoyance and deliberation; for when the Ambassador had asked for audience, it was known that he would touch on this topic and the Council was consulted. The King gave the Ambassador the same answer as the Council would have given.

Sir Henry Wotton is named Ambassador to the Duke of Savoy, and will leave in three or four weeks at the latest. Lord Hay's mission was withdrawn in obedience to his private interests. It seems that the King desires to conclude the marriage of the Princess somewhere, and so he sends to the Duke in order that, if he does not get full satisfaction, he may be free to negotiate elsewhere.

It is not known whether the Spanish Ambassador in the secret audience which he had of the King, and which lasted upwards of an

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hour, raised the question of the Princess or of the Prince; at all events one understands that he neither brought nor received satisfaction. The preachers have frequently touched on the question of marriage with Catholics in their sermons, but in general terms, without naming Spain or Savoy; they confine themselves to exhorting their congregations to pray that the marriages may take place with Princes of this religion.

The Elector Palatine will be here in Spring, so the brother of Wirtemberg assured the King when talking to his Majesty about the Elector as a suitor for the Princess, and urging that he would thus bind to himself all Germany, and would find not a son-in-law but a servant of his own faith, and one who would depend on his Majesty's nod. The King has not concealed from Wirtemberg nor from others who advocate the Elector's cause that he is pledged to the Duke of Savoy not to deal with the Elector while negotiating with the Duke, though he added words of great hope and of good-will towards the Elector and towards the Princes who support his suit. The Prince of Wirtemberg has also frequented the house of the Prince, who favours him and desires to see the Palatine gratified. The Spanish Ambassador at his audience of the King at New Market discussed the marriage of the Princess with the Prince of Spain in the terms I have reported; he dwelt on it as an idea of the Duke of Lerma and showed a letter to that effect. A courier has been dispatched to learn the facts. The Ambassador will make it be understood that these are merely words meant to gain time and not intended to reach any definite end.

The French Ambassador assures me that when the Spanish Ambassador proposed the Infanta for the Prince he meant the elder sister; but from another quarter, which I trust, I gather that the younger sister was meant, but with the condition that she should have the same right to the succession that her sister would have in the case of heirs male failing, which right her sister had renounced in accord with his Most Christian Majesty.

One of these days, on account of the incident at the Embassy, the Spanish Ambassador and then all the others will be invited to hear his Majesty's determination, which is that pursuivants shall have the right to watch in the way that seems to them best whether English subjects frequent the Mass at the Embassies, or that the Ambassador shall promise to admit no one. This will happen in three or four days.

The loan of one million six hundred thousand crowns which the King wants, will be effected. It will be raised not merely in London but throughout the kingdom. It is thought that it may even reach a higher sum. As the apportioning has taken place the drawing of the money will follow quickly.

Yesterday the King left London. The Earl of Salisbury remains to carry out the King's resolutions. To-day I shall call on him to congratulate him on his recovery. It is many months since I saw him.

London, 20th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

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Jan. 21.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

420. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

On the 13th of this month, there arrived at nightfall in the Port of Leghorn, one English and five Dutch sailors. They said that the captain, pilot and sailors of the "Red Lion"—a Flemish (Dutch) ship—had gone ashore to bargain for freight, and they went on board, drove the four sailors left on board into the sea with stabs of the dagger and took possession of the ship and sailed away. She was seen in the waters of Genoa and an armed frigate has been sent out to recover her.

Florence, 21st January, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 21.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

421. Francesco Donado, Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

Reports that for fear of the pirates who were cruising in sight of Zante, he had detained the ship "Tizzona." She lay off the shore for thirty-five days. At last the Master, the Supercargo, Merchants and Consuls all presented a petition that she might be allowed to sail, as her present anchorage was dangerous in the rotten state of her tackle. The Governor agreed to allow her to sail for Venice in company of four other ships and prays God for her safe arrival.

Zante, 21st January, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 22.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

422. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Yesterday the Secretary of Count Ruffia arrived from England. I have not yet discovered what news he brings about the matrimonial negotiations. It is clear, however, that there is nothing certain; four or five days ago there was even a rumour that Ruffia himself had been dismissed without reaching any conclusion. They are aware of the idea of marrying the Princess to the King of Spain; but think the question of religion very difficult to settle. The King of England would hardly consent to allow the Princess to become a Catholic before entering Spain, as the Spanish have greatly offended his Majesty by giving the eldest Infanta to the King of France.

Turin, 22nd January, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 23.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

423. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Colonel Allardo, Envoy of the Duke of Savoy, will receive instructions after the Duke has learned the decision of England as regards a match. Your Excellencies are aware that there are little hopes of that being carried out, as also that Ruffia has left England.

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M. de Jacob has written to him in Antwerp. After Ruffia's return to Turin the Duke will send a gentleman to England to keep the negotiations alive.

Paris, 23rd January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 26. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

424. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the CHIEFS OF THE TEN.

As the Ambassador of the Archduke is displaying the usual unjust pretensions, which are well known to your Serenity, this day week I presented a request to Lord Salisbury that your Excellencies' Ambassadors here should be treated on an equal footing with those of Crowned Heads as is done in all other Courts. I did not mention the Archduke or anyone else by name, but contented myself with demonstrating that your Serenity was recognised and treated on an equality with Sovreign Kings. I shall continue to act as is my duty; and as I know that the success of this business lies chiefly in its being kept secret, I now impart it to your Excellencies, who will hold it in the wonted silence, and so I will proceed for the future.

London, 26th January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian, deciphered.*] *Holograph.*

Jan. 29. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

425. GREGORIO BARBARIGO, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the DOGE and SENATE.

I have been able to find out nothing as yet as to what has happened in England. The French declare that the Spanish Ambassador in London did all he could to prevent a match between Savoy and England, and that it was solely for this purpose that he proposed the match with the King of Spain.

Turin, 29th January, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 30. Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

426. GIROLAMO SORANZO, Venetian Ambassador in Germany, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Emperor's designs have now come to light. It is clear that he had an understanding with the King of England, the King of Denmark and Count Maurice; and that he had offered to raise a powerful army in order to oppose the assembly of the Electoral Diet. He was ready to employ all his power and all his wealth to thwart King Mathias. The King of England supports the King of Denmark as candidate for the title of King of the Romans.

Prague, 30 January, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 3. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

427. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Shortly before the last audience which the Spanish Ambassador had of the King, a person arrived here from the English Ambassador in Spain with news that he had had an interview with Lerma

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and Don Juan Idiaquez, and that both had assured him that the Spanish Envoy in suggesting the eldest Infanta had spoken for himself and without orders. In the course of conversation, however, they let fall some words that neither actually cut off hopes nor yet gave hopes of negotiations as to the question of the Princess for the King. The Duke of Lerma, in discussing it, treated the question as one far off and by no means resolved on; and so here in in England they are quite convinced that all these proposals for marriage were intended merely to hold them in play with a full determination to conclude nothing.

As to the just claims of these merchants for indemnification, they had received fair promises and orders had been issued, but in their verification and execution vigorous opposition was encountered.

At the last audience of the Spanish Ambassador, as he did not say anything about matches either for the Prince or for the Princess, the King himself opened the question with some agitation, declaring that the Ambassador had spoken and pledged his word without orders, for so the Duke of Lerma and Don Juan Idiaquez had informed his Majesty's Ambassador; the King spoke with the greatest resentment. The Ambassador replied by declaring that he had always spoken on express orders of the King his Master, and that he had letters in his hands that would prove it. He uttered strong expressions against Lerma and Idiaquez, declaring that others might be great Lords but that he, as a knight, was as honourable and as truthful as any of them. He said he regretted to have to use such language about persons who were far off, whom he respected, and whom he could not challenge to maintain the truth at the sword's point. He grew hotter and hotter, and positively asserted that he would demand his recall, as he could not endure that those who issued instructions should deny them and throw the blame on him after he had carried them out with all prudence and punctuality. He concluded that he had no doubt but that his Majesty knew the true state of the case, as on other occasions he had shown to his Majesty and to the whole Council original instructions which had been repudiated in Spain; then seeing the King somewhat quieted, he went on to say that in truth he could not see how it was possible to treat of marriage when not one nor a few but almost all preachers exhorted their congregations publicly to pray that no match might take place with idolaters, a word that was improperly and unworthily applied to a great Prince and a Catholic, in fact he did not know what worse could be said of an Indian King or a Blackamoor.

When the King showed annoyance over the question of the Merchants the Ambassador did not hesitate to say that the Spanish too had cause to complain of similar acts, and yet they never said a word. The sea was swarming with English corsairs, who upset trade and commerce everywhere; these were not subjects of his Master—and yet they kept silence. English merchants sail to the East Indies in violation of the terms of the peace, and yet they closed their eyes, as well as to other breaches of the treaty—and yet full and swift justice will be done in Spain, and soon the Merchants will be satisfied and his Majesty gratified on this score. He then touched on the proposal of the Council to recall all pirates on a general

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pardon, pointing out that this might easily cause worse mischief; for in a very short time pirate ships would multiply again under the command of other captains, encouraged by the same principals who keep touch with them here, and the hope of recovery would be entirely lost. The Ambassador received a sharp and vigorous reply on all points save that which touched on the preachers, which the King said he had not heard of. The Ambassador pressed the point home, saying that perhaps the King had not been told it, but all the same he might quite well know the truth. At length he took his leave, having given and received no satisfaction. Almost at the same time the messenger sent by the English Ambassador in Spain arrived here, there came a courier sent by Lerma to the Spanish Ambassador informing him that the King had granted him a pension of two thousand crowns a year for his life. *This makes more evident the finesse of Lerma and Idiaquez in speaking to the English Ambassador in a sense contrary to that adopted by the Spanish Ambassador here when speaking to the King.*

Six days ago a courier arrived here from Brussels with despatches from Spain to the Ambassador. He told me that the Duke of Savoy is returning to favour with the King of Spain, whose policy it is to hold him. As to the marriage of the Princess to the Prince of Piedmont, his Catholic Majesty will not hear of it unless the Princess declares herself a Catholic before leaving England; it is evident that the Spanish Council is fixed in its desire to see the Prince married to someone who is absolutely dependent on Spain; and the Duke, unsupported, is therefore compelled to throw himself into their arms, as they say he has already done; *though he keeps up his negotiations in France and with Protestants in Germany, as I am told by a personage who belongs to the Council of State. This gentleman also holds a pamphlet dealing with the marriage of the Princess of England to the Prince of Savoy; it is known that this was issued, in French, by the Ministers of his Highness. Next week I will send it along with a translation.* The Ambassador did not conceal from me that the fact that the Savoyard Ambassador conducted his negotations here without imparting the whole to the Spaniard, showed that they were ready to receive the Princess as a Protestant and to allow her to live as such in Turin. If the Duke had desired to negotiate as a Catholic should, he would have accepted the offers of the King of Spain, and allowed his Majesty's Ministers to manage it all. The Ambassador has refused to negotiate with the Council, and insists on dealing direct with the King in order to conceal from the Spanish Envoy the fact that Savoy was prepared to leave the Princess a Protestant.

The Archduke's reply to the Savoyard Ambassador was that his Highness had no other wishes than those of his Catholic Majesty; so that the Savoyard might now take his departure as there was nothing more for him to do.

As I informed your Excellencies all the Ambassadors are to be summoned to attend the Council. To-morrow the French Ambassador and I are to go.

London, 3rd February, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

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Feb. 4.
Original Despatch Venetian Archives.

428. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

This day fortnight I visited the Earl of Salisbury and paid him my respects on the recovery of his health. He assured me that the Republic could always count on his Majesty. He did not conceal from me the great disorder which arises from the number of Catholics who frequent the Mass at the various Embassies, and he mentioned the Spanish Embassy and the Flemish Embassy in particular. I replied that, knowing as I did your Excellencies' wishes, I had always proceeded most circumspectly. The Earl seemed satisfied at this reply.

Council has resolved to grant an universal pardon to the pirates subjects of his Majesty, as has been asked for in their name by ten of them who are now in Ireland. The Prince has lent his authority to this scheme as he wishes to see the mariners of this Kingdom augmented by those who are now buccaneering and whose number is put down at three thousand men. There seem to be two chief reasons which have moved the King and Council to adopt this course, one is the offers of protection held out by the Grand Duke to those who seek refuge in Leghorn; the other is that they have so grown in power that it appears difficult to overcome them by force, while the damage they are doing to everyone is almost unendurable. The merchants who have been plundered agree on this course. In a few days the pardon will be sent by the hands of the Captain of the ships.* What effect it will have is the subject of various opinions. In the Straits there are twenty-six pirate ships which plunder every one, and no ship can pass except at great peril.

On Monday week, a courier arrived from the Grand Duke to his Secretary (Lotti), who at once sought the Earl of Salisbury and said that in the vigorous letters of complaint addressed by the King to the Grand Duke his Highness saw clearly that the interested parties had conveyed to his Majesty an impassioned account of the permission the Grand Duke has given to corsairs to seek shelter in his State; the Grand Duke had granted permission but on certain conditions, formulated by them, which hurt no one; and with that he took them out of his breast and handed them to the Earl. The essential point is that the pirates promise to live as Catholics and beg for some one to be appointed to instruct them in the Catholic religion. If the Grand Duke desired to employ them against Turks or others he is bound to pay them. They are to be free to buy real estate and to live where they choose. They are to be allowed to hire out their ships or to sail them themselves. The Secretary, noting that Salisbury looked little pleased, concluded by saying that now, thanks to the pardon, all disagreement would cease and the pirates would return to this Kingdom, nor would his Highness offer any opposition. There is a rumour that the ships that put out from Amsterdam to worry the Spanish have captured a place in Brazil and slain the Spanish garrison, and have seized a quantity of gold that was collected there. It seems that the Spanish have some vague confirmation of this news. A courier brings news

* Captain Roger Middleton. *See* Cal. S.P. Ireland, Jan. 31, 1612.

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from Spain that in Seville the English are forbidden to own houses of their own, and are obliged to live in hired apartments; also English who are not Catholics are excluded from giving witness in suits.

Sir Henry Wotton, appointed to Savoy, is getting ready and will leave in fifteen days. To-day his instructions will be discussed.

London, 4th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 4. Senato. Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

429. Giaconio Vendramin, Venetian President in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

At Leghorn arrival of another Englishman with a very rich ship. It is rumoured that when Guadagni arrives other ships may be manned by these English.

Florence, 4th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

430. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King and the other Protestant Princes, in face of the suspicion aroused by the union of France and Spain in bonds of reciprocal marriages, will wait to see whether these alliances are publicly announced, and whether the Infanta goes to France and the Princess to Spain. In the meantime Prince Maurice will be active in Germany, and it is said that in spring he will come to this Court along with the Elector Palatine and the Prince of Anhault and many other German Princes. If the matches are really published and corroborated on both sides, as rumour says they will be, then the Protestants will proceed not merely to give effect to the union already resolved upon under the auspices of the King of England and with the presence of the King of Denmark and other Princes, but to a Union of an even closer nature.

While these Franco-Spanish matches are being discussed and even higher importance attached to them than facts warrant, *a personage of high rank and long experience said to me that it is well to prevent dangers by remedies and to abound in precautions, but he did not believe these marriages had any ulterior object save to secure peace in France during the King's minority, and in Spain to permit them to amass riches and spread out in Italy where they already hold so much. The effects of this policy are already visible in the seizure of Sassello in the territory of Genoa, and of Piombino in Tuscany and other places in Elba. It suits the Duke of Lerma not to embroil the King of Spain in war so as to allow himself the opportunity of turning to account a large part of that money which would otherwise be spent on the army, but on the other hand he has to maintain the reputation of so great a Prince, and this he does by small and safe conquests. He will therefore lend his approval to a policy of aggression against the weak, and pressure where occasion serves, for the Spanish arms in Italy are extended more by craft and money than by force, which they*

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will not employ unless tempted thereto by some very great advantage to be gained. As this was all said by a person of quality, I have considered it my duty to report it fully to your Excellencies.

London, 7th February, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

431. Zorzi Guistinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of Savoy, on learning the conclusion of the Spanish alliances, protested; but Villeroy let him speak and stood firm. Eight days ago Count Ruffia passed through Paris on his way back from England. He stayed two days. He has no hopes of success in his negotiation, though he gives out a different tale.

Paris, 7th February, 1611 [m.v.].

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

432. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Archduke Albert, on orders from Spain, has secretly sounded Barneveldt and some other magnates of the United Provinces on the subject of peace. He declared that if he met with a favourable disposition he would send the Marchese Spinola with ample powers to treat in company with the Admiral of Aragon. On the discovery of opposition from Count Maurice he intends to act through the Kings of England and of France. I must now add that his Catholic Majesty broached the subject to the Queen of France, and through her the proposal for peace was made by M. de Refuges, her Ambassador. M. de Refuges' instructions contain two clauses, first, to notify the States that the matches are concluded and established, and therefore there is no need to maintain the two regiments of Chatillon and Bethune; the second, to propose a formal peace with Spain and the Archduke on one sole condition that in each of the principal towns there should be one Catholic Church; for the rest the clauses of the peace are to be the same as those of the truce. M. de Refuges fell ill on the road, but either by his mouth, if he recovers, or by that of some other Ambassador, the proposal will be made. The Ambassador of the States assures me that his Masters will never make peace except on one of two conditions, either that his Catholic Majesty grants the establishment of as many Protestant Churches in Spanish Flanders as there are to be Catholic Churches in Holland, or that the peace is to be concluded on the identical lines of the truce, without mentioning religion. As to the first of these the Ambassador himself recognises that it is an impossible condition; as to the second it does not seem so difficult, especially if the King has aims elsewhere, as seems to be the case, since he has proposed a peace at this early date while the truce has nine years to run. Here there was doubt, recently, whether the States would accept the peace on the terms to be proposed by Refuges; that helped and still helps to allay some annoyance caused by the question of Vorstius (*Vestrius*); but everything will end quietly. The Dutch

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Ambassador is in high favour with the King and not less with the Earl, who shows a particular regard for the United Provinces, as he knows their strength and the advantage of their friendship to this Crown. The fact that Spain agrees to leave in perpetual peace the United Provinces without insisting on the Catholic rite, except in some few of the chief cities, leads people to think that the King may easily waive his other pretensions which alone stand by in the way of peace.

London, 9th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 10. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

433. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the fourth I was at the Council, and Lord Salisbury turning to me began to speak as follows: "My Lord Ambassador, you may imagine that the King holds his own religion in as high esteem as any other Prince holds his; accordingly on learning that many of his subjects attend Mass at the Embassies and are confessed by Embassy Chaplains, he has considered how to remedy this and at his departure he left us this charge and express orders; you, therefore, must pardon me if we have given you the trouble of coming here. You are aware in what esteem the King holds the Republic, an esteem he is ever ready to prove. He desires that the Republic's Ambassadors would themselves open their eyes and take such steps as every head of a house can take in his own dwelling, for otherwise he will be obliged to employ his own officers to his great regret, as he wishes that the necessary diligence should come from the courtesy of the Ambassadors themselves, and not from the police officers at the doors of the Embassies with uproar and clamour." I replied that there could not be a happier day for me than that on which I could serve the King or their Excellencies, the great Ministers of this Crown, for I should thus at a single stroke satisfy my duty and my desire. "I am sent here to preserve and to increase the friendship between this kingdom and the Republic, if I acted in any other way I should be greatly lacking. My church is a small chapel in my house, destined for the use of my suite and of some chance subject of your Serenity or a friend of mine, not a parish church capable of holding a large concourse of English. My chaplain knows no language but Italian and I brought him from Venice on purpose to be sure of having someone who was known to be prudent. As to his Majesty's goodwill, I had already borne frequent testimony to it. As to his desire that the Ambassadors should prevent the English from frequenting Mass otherwise the officers would make an uproar at the Embassy doors, I have two things to say, first that in France the Venetian Ambassador is treated on a footing with the Spanish, in Spain, on a footing with the French; I therefore suppose that similar representations have been made or are about to be made to the French and Spanish Ambassadors, and secondly, that the King will never receive greater satisfaction from France and Spain than from Venice."

I was heard with approval and applause, and as I ceased the Earl of Salisbury spoke to the Council in English, and after taking

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their opinions he turned to me with a smiling countenance and said that I was quite right in asserting that my chapel was for the use of my household, some subjects of your Serenity and friends of my own. He assured me that the other Ambassadors had been or would be addressed in the same terms. The Archduke's Ambassador had found the matter somewhat of an innovation and asked time to write for instructions. The French Ambassador thought it would be difficult to use vigilance sufficient and felt disposed to keep the Embassy doors shut during Mass. The Spanish Ambassador was still to be spoken to. The King will be informed by letter of the various answers. I could see that when Lord Salisbury spoke to the Council he was conveying my answer and enquired whether I should be told the substance of the Flemish and French replies. They did not conceal from me the fact that the Flemish Ambassador employed some vigorous language and so too the French Ambassador, but far less so.

On the sixth, the Spanish Ambassador was with the Council, which touched on three topics; the indemnification of English merchants; the new rule in Seville forbidding two English to lodge together or to own houses; and the presence of English at Mass and confession, which they handled with energy and a great display of warm language. The Ambassador replied that as these merchants were now united in a corporation, and excellent orders had been issued by the Spanish Court, they would obtain full justice and speedy execution. The Seville decree was necessary because the English had circulated a large quantity of false money and had so infected the town that a remedy was called for. As regards Mass and confession he had already written to Spain as soon as the King had spoken to him on the subject; he therefore could say nothing, save that he was awaiting his master's orders. Meantime, to avoid disobliging them, he would rather if so commanded leave the city; this he said in reply to a suggestion that he might keep the doors shut, to which he had answered that he could not assent to this nor to any other innovation. He concluded by a declaration of his humble devotion to the King and the Lords of Council. As he was standing up to take his leave he said to the Earl of Salisbury, aside, that his Catholic Majesty had given orders for the Ambassadors of Savoy to return to Court, and the Duke of Savoy was quite restored to his Majesty's favour. This news he had imparted to many others and also to me. The Council has taken no further action, and so the Spanish Ambassador and all the others nourish a belief that it will all end easily and quietly. To-day the French Ambassador assured me that he had never said a word about keeping the door of the Embassy closed either at Mass or at any other time.

London, 10th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 10.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

434. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the conclusion of my conversation with the Council, Lord Sailsbury informed me that the Emperor was dead, and asked me my opinion as to who would succeed him; he remarked that in the

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present juncture of affairs most people thought Mathias would. He extolled the power of the Elector of Brandenburg, who has now been aggrandised by the possession of the Duchy of Prussia and a little earlier by the possession of a large part of the Duchies of Juliers and Cleves. He quite understood that the Emperor's sudden death is considered a great stroke of fortune for Mathias and a blow to the others. In conversation with the Spanish Ambassador he told me that the late Emperor had an understanding with the King of Denmark and other Protestants to prevent the election of the King of the Romans from taking place in the Spring; that in order to divide the brothers and the House of Austria he had encouraged the Archduke Albert, and intended to be present at the Diet to upset and subvert everything; such action God had permitted once, twice and even more times, but has now put out His hand and applies the remedy as has just befallen; concluding that in no other way could great divisions and difficulties in Germany have been avoided, and they would have proved a serious detriment to religion. As to the pretensions of Albert he did not know how they would stand after the death of the Emperor, and he held the election of Mathias as certain.

The day before yesterday the Archduke's Secretary left on his way back. This death of the Emperor comes very inopportunely for the King of Denmark, whose object it was to delay the Election of the King of the Romans, to finish his war with Sweden, and thus, augumented in power and weight, to endeavour to secure the title for himself. There is news that the Archduke has pushed his Court on towards Cologne, in order to meet the Archduke Maximilian. He himself has gone to Namur, forty miles from Brussels; Maximilian it seems has turned back on learning the death of the Emperor. The Savoyard Ambassador, who was at Brussels, is in secret treaty about the vote of Brandenburg at the Election; this vote Albert has for long been endeavouring to secure, *having even gone the length of promising two small provinces which Brandenburg greatly desires.* The Archduke is raising troops in Luxemburg and the Elector at Cologne, both on account of the quarrels in Aix-la-Chapelle. The Dutch have pushed forward six companies of infantry to those frontiers where there were four companies already. The Election of Emperor they say will take place three months after the decease of his Cesarean Majesty—so the Imperial Constitution decrees—and meantime the candidates will canvass.

The Florentine Secretary sent back the courier, and two days later another express arrived, I do not know whether about the pirates' business or not. A courier from France brings news that on the twenty-eighth the Queen, in a sitting of the Council with all the Princes of the blood, announced the Spanish matches and the reasons that had led up to them. The Duke of Guise and all the Princes of the House of Lorraine approved, and so gradually did almost all the rest. The Prince of Conde and the Court of Soissons offered a vigorous opposition, and on leaving the Council Condé said that if these matches took place, in less than a year the larger part of the Council would be pensioners of Spain. All the same the Queen moves forward and the Duke of Mayenne is to go as Ambassador

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Extraordinary to Spain to give and receive the promise of marriage, and to secure that the Infanta shall come to France and the Princess pass into Spain, as the French wish though Spain is not so sure about it.

The French Ambassador when visiting me said that now that these matches were published there would be no further question of England treating with Spain, and this seemed to please him. There is an Ambassador from Savoy arrived at the French Court, *on the pretext of condolence for the death of the Duke of Orleans, but in reality to beg the Queen to take the Duke of Savoy and his affairs under her protection. The Spaniards want to ill-treat the Duke, who is a Prince of a great heart and will not endure it, and so desires to be bound to France. The King of Spain has recently made him offers to win him back. It is clear that the French are endeavouring to please everybody, but especially Spain, from which, during the King's minority, they can receive most harm. Several personages of weight have lately remarked to me that although these Franco-Spanish matches are actually carried into effect it will still be impossible to modify the differences of national temperament during the King's minority.*

London, 20th February, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

435. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The English galleon that brought the new English Ambassador from the King of England brought also a large quantity of sword-blades unmounted, and a great deal of steel besides. I can do nothing with foreigners here in this matter.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 11th February, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Feb. 11. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

436. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Orders have been received in Leghorn to push on the work on the galleasse, the invention of Warwick.

Florence, 11th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 12. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives

437. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

A rumour is abroad that the King is to marry the Princess of England on condition that she becomes a Catholic, and that liberty of conscience is permitted in England. When that came to to the ears of the English Ambassador *he, on a visit to me showed indignation and disgust at the Spanish, who for their own ends spread about such reports; the King, his Master, sooner than consent to such conditions, would rather lose his kingdom.* He begged me, if

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occasion offered, to state this positively. He added that now, that the union of France and Spain was accomplished, *other great Princes would have to look to their safety.*

Madrid, 12th Februry, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 16. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

438. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Saturday the eleventh, the Ambassador of the States visited the Earl of Salisbury and told him that in order to please his Majesty the Dutch Government had ordered Vorstius to quit Leyden. Salisbury praised this step and dwelt upon the benefit which the United Provinces can receive from a good understanding with England. The Ambassador then went on to inform Salisbury of the vigorous demands for help sent from the people of Aix-la-Chapelle as the Elector of Cologne was arming, and so too the Elector of Saxony to carry out the ban of the Empire. The answer was that the death of the Emperor suspended the ban and all similar acts until the new Election, to which all the Princes of Germany will now be giving their whole attention.

Salisbury reports everything of moment to the King by letter. The expulsion of Vorstius will give him great satisfaction. It seems that the King is not pleased with the new Elector of Saxony; he has caused it to be said to the Elector that he apparently does not appreciate the greatness of the King of Great Britain, for he merely sent a courier to the English Court with letters while to France he sent an Ambassador Extraordinary. These letters contain two points, his resolution as regards Aix-la-Chapelle, and his resolution as regards the "possession" of Cleves. On this point the King shows that he desires what is reasonable and not what was urged in favour of Saxony on other occasions. I have various letters from the Hague. M. de Refuges has arrived as Ambassador Extraordinary from France, and has been received by Prince Maurice and the States General, with every honour. He has not yet had audience, as his health is not good.

The Commissioners of Lübeck, Brunswick and Bremen have obtained what they desired from the States and have set off home. Count Maurice, on the orders of the States General, has commissioned several captains to get ready their companies of infantry to succour Aix-la-Chapelle. M. de Refuges' ill health is a serious drawback to business.

His Catholic Majesty has offered to Don Emmanuel of Portugal, brother-in-law of Count Maurice, a present of six thousand crowns a year, and another of two hundred every month to Don Christoforo, his brother, who is in Paris. This act is interpreted as being prompted by a conscientious feeling on the part of his Majesty.

The Bishop of Ypres, for so they call the Cordelier,* who originally attempted to negotiate the peace and then the truce, is at Breda, a fief of the Prince of Orange; whether by accident or on purpose I know not.

London, 16th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

* Neyen.

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Feb. 17.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

439. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After the remarks of Lord Salisbury to the Ambassador in the Council, on the subject of admitting English to Mass, not a word more has been said, nor has any unusual vigilance been adopted. The Spanish Ambassador has taken a house some miles out of town, and there is a rumour that if difficulties arise he intends to avoid them by going there for a while. It seems that the Archduke Albert is aspiring to the Kingship of the Romans at least, and the Spanish Secretary told me that his object is chiefly to give the title of "her Majesty" to his wife rather than for any other purpose; for the Archduke is so far advanced in life that he is quite close to his brother Mathias, and he is, moreover, childless, so that his election would not prejudice any of the other Archdukes who are his juniors, while Maximilian aims at nothing save the welfare of the House of Austria. All this is quite clearly grasped here, and its obvious intention is to secure the Empire to the House of Austria. Since the Emperor's death there has been no news from the King of Denmark, and so all speculation is suspended until there is some certainty as to his wishes. Lord Salisbury has had some conversation with the French Ambassador on the subject of the Imperial election. The Ambassador has written to France, and when he knows the candidates the ground will be firmer. News from Sweden that Gustavus has been crowned king. He is very popular. He is arming for the defence of the country, and John is not proving a disturber of the peace, as Gustavus' humanity robs him of any pretext. The Danish Agent (Charisius) confirms this news; he has already embarked the hundred small cannon for the service of his Master. The King of Denmark is fully occupied in military preparations, and seeing that the war will prove much more difficult than he at first supposed, he will hardly be able to give his attention to his candidature for the Empire. The Duke of Wirtemberg's brother leaves to-day for Germany. He will go through France, and as he has been some days with the King he may possibly be charged with some mission; any way, he is leaving earlier than he intended. The French Ambassador tells me that M. de Vic has had an interview with Sully, and afterwards wrote to the Queen and to Villeroy to endeavour to restore Sully to his Majesty's good graces. Sir Henry Wotton, appointed Ambassador Extraordinary to Savoy, tells me that he is only waiting the King's return in order to start. That will take place this day week; I seem to gather that he himself does not know thoroughly what his exact mission is to be.

There is news that the Dutch fleet which was sent out against the pirates fell in with the Spanish fleet off the coast of Spain. The commander of the Spanish squadron was not content that the Dutch should simply vail their fore-top-sail, but insisted that they should dip their standard. Numerous shots were exchanged, and the Spanish came off very badly, especially the flag ship. The royal officials continue to call in the loan of one million six hundred crowns, and are finding some difficulty, but nothing of moment.

The Grand Duke's Secretary, after interviews with Lord Salisbury, the Queen, and the Princes, sent off the second courier, who had

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been sent here from Paris by the Marchese Botti immediately on the receipt of an express from Florence. The subject of these negotiations remains a profound secret, but I hope in time, and may be by the next post, to send your Excellencies full information.

London, 17th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 19. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

440. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke is discontented and anxious over the report he has received from Count Ruffia as regards the King of England's intentions. He strongly suspects that his Catholic Majesty intends himself to marry that Princess.

Turin, 19th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

441. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Last week a courier express passed through from Spain to England. There is a rumour of negotiations for a marriage between the Princess Elizabeth and his Catholic Majesty, but most people think this is merely a ruse to interrupt the match with Savoy. In a few days the Duke of Bouillon will go to the English Court to conclude the match with the Count Palatine as it is said, *but in reality he has a secret mission from the Queen which I have not discovered yet. I know that after the death of M. de Vitry,* the Queen has always been thinking† of sending someone to be by the King's side as Vitry was.* The Duke will endeavour to soften the mind of the King and to dissipate the suspicions aroused by the Spanish matches; and if he sees an opening he will propose the second daughter of France in marriage to the Prince. The Queen thinks that such a proposal coming from a personage of the same religion and highly esteemed by the King will have the effect of dispelling the shadows, although those of his religion, after his action at Saumur, gave him no more credit, and openly say that he is bought by Spain, and declare that in England he will serve Spain rather than anyone else.

I have seen letters from the French Ambassador in England in which he says that although the King is annoyed at the Spanish matches, yet if fresh proposals were made to him from here they would receive attention.

Paris, 21st February, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

442. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Sunday the Spanish Ambassador visited me and told me that M. de Refuges, Ambassador Extraordinary of France to the United

* Decipher reads "Vidi," but cipher reads n^{48} n^{83}.=Vitri.

† Decipher reads "penetrato," but cipher reads b^{2} z^{11} b^{41} n^{54}=pensato

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Provinces, will declare that the Queen, after the death of the late King, has spent much money, and the Crown is in difficulties, and as Great Britain is pressing for large credits, the States will have to pay back a third of the money advanced to them by the late King. For the same reason the Queen finds herself unable to pay the two regiments of infantry and the squadron of cavalry in this present time of peace, and when France and Spain are now one body. For sound considerations it has been resolved to conclude the reciprocal matches, and in view of this it would be as well that peace between the Spanish and the United Provinces should be proposed. This, the Ambassador pointed out to me, was a proof of the King's disposition towards peace, when he is disposed to grant it to his rebellious subjects. In the course of conversation he let it be seen that he thought the States have no hope of being safe under any kind of promise from Spain, for pledges to subjects do not bind; he indicated that in his opinion this dread was well founded, and that as a matter of fact such pledges need not be kept. Speaking of the couriers arrived recently from Tuscany and what their business might be, he said that some months ago the Secretary of the Grand Duke had offered a large amount of gold to a great personage if he would support a match between a sister of the Grand Duke and the Prince; the dower to be very big. He received encouragement and ample promises to advance the affair; but the Prince would not hear of it, declaring that if the Grand Duke was not good enough for the Princess, no more was the Grand Duke's sister good enough for him. As a fact, the Princess' hand has been sought through a special Embassy, but here they would not lend an ear. Afterwards when the Grand Duke married the sister of the King of Spain he sent to announce the marriage to the King of England for no other reason than to say tacitly "You would not ally yourself with me and now here the greatest Sovereign in the world has done it." The Spanish Ambassador is of opinion that the couriers have come with instructions about a match, and if a Florentine Ambassador arrives, as is rumoured, his mission will be to carry on the negotiations. If the Prince continues to decline to listen to the proposal then they will propose the second sister of the King of France. Talking of the Savoyard proposals the Ambassador said that the King consulted no one but Lord Salisbury and the Archbishop of Canterbury. They hesitated to give the Princess in marriage, because though they were promised that she might remain a Protestant they feared the Duke would not keep his word.

I have a certain confirmation of the fact that the Secretary of Florence, some time back, did actually treat on this subject. I am told from a very good quarter that the affair is going on, and that in spring a Florentine Ambassador may be expected.

In conclusion, I must add that as far as strained relations over the question of the pirates is concerned things are quieting down. I am told by a person of experience that the affair of Leghorn, which has already assumed large proportions, will go on increasing much further, thanks to the correspondence addressed there by these merchants and the Dutch traders too. I will keep my eye on these proceedings and report to your Excellencies.

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Three days ago some ships with a thousand Spanish infantry on board stayed for some hours at Dover, and then moved on to Dunquerque. They say that more are to follow, to fill up the ranks of the Spanish force. The King of Spain prefers these troops to all others, as he thinks they are more dependent on his nod.

London, 23rd February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 24. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

443. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After the Dutch Ambassador had told the King that his Masters had caused Vorstius to leave Leyden, the King received despatches from his Ambassador in Holland telling him that Vorstius had left Leyden, but had gone to the Hague, the capital, and that he did not lack supporters. This news has greatly disturbed the King's mind, which was not quiet before; and so three days ago he caused to be printed a discourse in which he condemns the said Vorstius, recalls his efforts to secure the expulsion of Vorstius from Holland, cites the reasons which moved him to this step, and concludes with the expression of a hope that the States will punish Vorstius in their Assembly of the coming month,* as they have promised to do and ought to do on every consideration of State and of Religion. The Ambassador went three days ago to the Court.

On his departure from London the King left orders for the Council to carry out. He is not quite satisfied with what they have done, and on his return he will alter some things and will proceed with greater rigour. There is among other things the capital punishment of one charged with being an Arian †; and it seems that there is a doubt as to whom jurisdiction properly belongs. The King insists that the execution shall take place as soon as possible, for the position of this man is very similar to that of Vorstius; his Majesty would be the better pleased if the sentence issued from the Archbishop, as it is more easy for him to command the Archbishop than to command Parliament.

Also on the point of the presence of English subjects at Mass in Embassies we shall hear something further, but more, it seems, in the nature of an order to the subjects than of any innovation as regards the Embassies.

Every diligence will be used in calling up the loan without delay. Besides these matters, which touch home politics, foreign affairs will receive attention. There will be Wotton's commission to Savoy; the reply to the letters from the Elector of Brandenburg and to others; the consideration of the proposals of the Grand

* *See* Birch, "Court and Times of James I," vol. 1, p. 159. "The King is expected here on Friday. His book is finished the last week but not published till this day, and only in French, the English and Latin copies being yet in press. A hundred of them were sent away with all speed on Saturday to Sir Ralph Winwood." The book was called "Declaration sur les actions, devors les Etats Genereaux des Pays Bas unis touchant le fait de Conrad Vorstius."

† Bartholomew Legate. The question was as to the jurisdiction of the Consistory Court of the Bishop of London. Coke maintained that a conviction in the Court of High Commission was necessary Bacon supported the Bishop's Court.

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Duke, and other matters that have been left unsettled, although the King, even when in the country, spends a good part of the day in the discharge of business, and does not work so hard at the chase as he did.

My news from the Hague is that M. de Refuges has had audience and has asked for the payment of a third of the money already lent by the late King of France during the past wars, which third is destined by the Queen of France in payment of the debts due to the Crown of England. The Ambassador also announced the Franco-Spanish matches, adding that this would not hinder kindly relations between France and these provinces. As yet he has not presented his proposals for changing the twelve years' truce into a peace; perhaps he desires to sound the ground first. At the Hague they have also some news of the combat which took place between their ships and the Spanish squadron, though here there is no further information. After the Emperor's death the military preparations against Aix-la-Chapelle have been suspended. The Elector of Cologne is said to be moribund and even dead. The death of this Elector will not cause any delay in the convocation of the Diet, nor will it make any possible difference. There is the Coadjutor, his nephew, who will succeed him. During the life of Henry IV. this Coadjutor was in his pay and dependent on his nod; then on the death of Henry the Queen cut down pensions and policy to the limits of her own Kingdom; and so rumour says the Coadjutor has drawn towards Spain. It is generally thought that Mathias will be Emperor.

Letters from Denmark to the King and Queen. The King of Denmark can not possibly think of the Imperial throne. The late Emperor would most certainly have prevented the election of the King of the Romans; all the Protestants were with him, and so Denmark felt sure of having time to conclude his enterprises.

A Diet is summoned at Stockholm; and many leading Swedes are of opinion that Gustavus ought to buy peace from Denmark by leaving him the places he has won. This with a view to preparing to defend himself against Poland. The King of Denmark is anxious for peace. The King's return, fixed for to-day, has been put off for one or two days, which he will spend at Theobalds.

London, 24th February, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

444. Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

After the new English Ambassador had seen the great personages of the Porte I sent my secretary to visit him and to wish him a good beginning and prosperous progress in his Embassy, with such other expressions of friendship as are suitable to a like occasion. The Ambassador was much pleased; he is a very humane man; he said to the secretary that he was waiting to kiss the Sultan's hand and would then come at once to tell me all that had taken place, as he held me in high esteem for your Serenity's sake. He informed my secretary that he had been to the Lieutenant Grand-Vizir to arrange about his

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audience; he told the same that he had been sent here by his King to deal with matters very different from those which his predecessor had handled; meaning to refer to the affairs of the Prince of Bogdan, which had proved a failure, and to some other point; that he wished to lay fresh foundations for the interests of the English, and to secure, as far as he was able, the maintenance of the Capitulations. He remarked that his Master was not an immediate neighbour of the Turk, and was in close alliance with all Princes of Christendom; that although on the point of religion there was some slight divergence yet the friendship remained always firm. The Ambassador said that the Pasha had civil and courteous words for him, but he did not know whether in the result facts and words would correspond. He repeated that he was here for no other purpose than for the maintenance of the Capitulations if the Turk chose; if not, his Master would know what to do.

The day before yesterday the Ambassador himself came to see me. For the most part he repeated the foregoing observations. After some further conversation, showing great confidence towards me, and almost making a complaint, he told me that the French Ambassador had been very rude to him, for when his predecessor went to visit the French Ambassador his Excellency said "How is it that your successor has come here so quickly and without any warning? I hear he is a bankrupt merchant. Take care he does not cozen you; look closely at the letters he brings." The English Ambassador said that he knew his successor for an honourable gentleman, and the true Ambassador of his Sovreign; and that his letters were perfectly good. Sir Thomas Glover reported this conversation to Paul Pindar, the new Ambassador, who was deeply grieved; and as he had to visit the French Ambassador, after some general terms of politeness, he said that besides coming to give his compliments to his Lordship, he had also come to make himself better known; for, seeing that his Lordship had uttered the above words, he showed ignorance of Pindar's true condition; Pindar therefore informed his Lordship that it was quite true that he was a merchant, but an honourable and loyal one, that he had been for long in Venice, and that of all his nation he was the first who had made a contract for the supply of grain with the Corn Office of the Republic, and his name would be found honourably inscribed in the books of that office. It was true that bills for perhaps forty thousand piastres had been returned from England dishonoured; but it was also true that he went to London straight by post and satisfied the two merchants, one a Ragusan, the other a Florentine; so that he did not merit the name of bankrupt nor any other term of reproach.

The French Ambassador feigned the greatest astonishment at this discourse; declaring that if he had ever said such a thing, not in Turkey only but in all Europe, he would not be safe from Pindar's revenge; and on this he dwelt for long. The Englishman replied "Sir, don't say that. A person who heard you use those words and reported them to me, will tell you to your face that you used them." The French Ambassador persisted in his line of excuse and threw the blame in general on others. The Englishman replied that he was the Ambassador of a great and highly honoured Sovreign and should be recognized as such; and in any case he would value others precisely as they valued him. And here the conversation and the visit ended; and the episode in the hands of any one less temperate might have led to a

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more violent resentment. It will be well for your Excellencies to keep silence on the subject. (E stato avanti hieri poi lo stesso Signor Ambasciatore a vedermi; per la maggiore parte mi replicò le cose soddette, et dopo altri ragionamenti vari mostrando gran confidenza meco lamentandosi quasi, mi disse come era stato tenuto da questo Signor Ambasciatore di Francia un mal termine seco, et fu che sendo andato il precessor suo arisistare esso Ambasciatore di Francia havergli sua Sig^ria Illma detto, come è venuto così presto, et senza alcun aviso questo Vostro successore? intendo che egli è un mercante falito, guardate che non v'inganni considerate bene le lettere ch' egli ha. Risposegli l' Inglese conoscerlo per un gentil huomo honorato, per vero Ambasciatore del suo Rè, et che le lettere sue d' indirizzo eran buonissime. Queste parole dal Signor Tomaso Glover vecchio Ambasciatore, e riportate di poi al Signor Paolo Pinder, nuovo Ambasciatore Anglo, il contristorno assai, et havendo egli a render visita al francese, dopo qualche termine universali d' ufficio gli disse che oltre il complir seco era anco andato da sua Signoria Illma per darlesi meglio a conoscere stante che havendo ella detto le parole sopra considerate parea nol conoscesse, et pero gli facea intendere esser verissimo ch' egli era stato mercante ma honorato et leale molto sempre, che in Venetia era stato lungamente, che della nation sua fu egli il primo che facesse partito coll' ufficio Illmo delle Biade di gran somma di grani, et che il suo nome stava scritto ne' libri di quell' ufficio honoratamente. Esser vero che alcune lettere di forse 40^m piastre le tornaron in dietro d' Inghilterra non accettate ma verissimo esser stato anco che presa la posta si fu di lungo a Londra, et sodisfecene due mercanti un Raguseo, et un Fiorentino onde ne di falito ne di altro mal nome gli convenira. Fece grandi le meraviglie il Signor Ambasciatore di Francia circa questo proposito, dicendo che se egli potesse imaginarsi o penetrar ma che cio s' havesse detto che non che in Turchia ma non sarebbe in tutta Europa sicuro dalle sue mani, immorandosene in questo termine assai; et facendosi lontano d' ogni' altro. Risposegli il Signor Ambasciatore Inglese "Signore, non dite così, che da persona che ha sentito ciò dire a voi et che a me le ha riferto, vi sarà affermato in faccia." Riprese il Signor Ambasciatore di Francia il modo che si usa, gettando generalmente in altri la colpa, onde l' Inglese soggionse che sendo egli Ambasciatore d' un Rè grande et stimato era dovere fosse per tal conosciuto, et ch' in ogni caso quel capitale ch' altri di lui faccesse, farebbe egli anco d' altri. Et qui mi disse terminasse la visita, et il ragionamento di quest' accidente, il quale in soggetto men temperato harebbe facilmente potuto capitare a più severo risentimento.)

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 25th February, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Feb. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

445. SIMON CONTARINI, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the DOGE and SENATE.

They say that a Nuncio from the Dutch has reached Chios; his business is to sound the Turks on the subject of a treaty. The English Ambassador tells me that this person will sign the Capitulations and then a regular Ambassador will be sent. I shall not neglect to attend to our interests and to work covertly with the other Ambassadors, who do not approve of this new comer. Yesterday as the Sultan was going

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to the old Serraglio, Stefan Bogdan, the man who was so much supported by the late English Ambassador, approached, and in the formula these scoundrels use, he professed himself a Turk; a step which shows the kind of fellow he always was. The Sultan gave him the Sanjak of Pistrina in Albania.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 25th February, 1611 [M.V.].

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

March 1. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

446. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

An Ambassador from the King of Denmark arrived here this day week. On Sunday he had audience of his Majesty. He has two missions; one refers to the Imperial election, about which the King has written to various Protestant Princes in Germany and especially to the Elector of Brandenburg; the second point is that the Ambassador is not merely to hasten the succours but to procure a still larger number of men both English and Scotch, promising to pay them with Danish money from the day of embarkation. His Majesty is resolved to put an army of twenty-two thousand men in the field, as soon as the season will allow him, to be employed where circumstances may suggest. As regards the Imperial election there can be no doubt what answer he has received from the King, nor can the King's support be looked for; as to succours, there seems to be a favourable disposition, but nothing definite is settled. As I write, that is at two o'clock in the afternoon, the Ambassador is with the Council, to which his Majesty has referred him for answers to certain points. Later on he will again see the King, I know not whether on business or as a favour on this day, which is a *fête* at the Palace. He has seen the Queen and has presented her with a great mirror framed in gold, powdered with diamonds, pearls and jewels of great value. He also saw the Prince, who made much of him. I have not omitted to send to visit him, and I will go in person when he is a little freer.

The Archduke Albert is vigorously pushing his negotiations, and his Ambassador here has asked for audience, but is put off, as they do not wish to give him any answer at present. There are several expresses from Germany, but the most important affairs remain undecided, as Lord Salisbury has a tertian fever, intermittent, however, though accompanied by great weakness. May it please God to preserve him and free him from his sickness, for truly his qualities are marvellous.

The King since his return has seen Lord Salisbury every day once and even oftener. He has been present at medical consultations and shows most bitter grief for Lord Salisbury's indisposition. The Queen too has been slightly indisposed at Greenwich; but the day before yesterday she was in London, looking very well, and at once went to visit Lord Salisbury. Yesterday the French Ambassador had audience, which he had pressed for. I have not had time to find out what about. The English Ambassador in France writes fully and often, to the King's satisfaction. His despatch of the tenth declares that they were delaying the publication of the marriages

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owing to the annoyance expressed by the Princes of the blood, who feel excluded from the conduct of affairs. They intend to send the Duke of Bouillon here to give assurances that these matches will not in any way disturb the friendly relations with this Crown. There are hints of a financial disorder; and the actual terms of the marriage contracts are not known. Your Excellencies will have heard all this before now, but as it comes from the lips of one who knows, I consider it my duty to forward it by way of confirmation. Nor must I omit to report that *the Duke of Bouillon has declared that he does not wish to come here with words only, but with some substantial offer.*

Despatches from Spain give little satisfaction; and these last few days strange rumours have been current about the Spanish Lieger here (Velasco) even to the length that he was a prisoner in the Tower; this induced him to show himself about in the City, and delays his departure for the country in order to root out this report; all the same he is in very bad odour here, especially with the people; as regards the King and the great personages he has cleared himself by laying all the blame, without any regard, upon the Duke of Lerma, the Spanish Council of State and the King himself; but all this is not quite enough, and he goes about saying, openly, as he said to myself in particular, that he desires nothing so much as to depart from hence, and he asks no other grace from God nor favour from his King than leave to return home. Only a few days ago he sent a courier to insist on his recall, which he says he has asked for repeatedly and insistently. He vows that if his successor does not arrive before Autumn, he will leave. In the meantime he declares that he intends to spend the larger part of this period out in the country, some miles away from London. He has already taken a house there.

The French Ambassador has news from the Hague, via Calais, that the thousand Spanish troops, who, as I wrote, had arrived at Dunquerque, have been distributed among the various garrisons. The Archduke is slowly raising levies, and the Dutch have strengthened their forces on the frontier; and so there is suspicion on all sides. The Ambassador added that M. de Refuges writes to him that he has begun to unfold his mission to the States, but that he has to go cautiously if he desires to conduct it to a favourable issue, and it will take a long time. M. de Russi, the French Lieger to the States, is still lying at his house indisposed, so that the whole business falls on de Refuges. I do not know if he has yet brought forward the proposals for a peace with Spain and the Archduke. I am, however, informed that such proposals will not be entertained, especially if coupled with the condition that a Catholic Church is to be opened in each of the principal towns.

As to Vorstius, the King will be gratified, and the discourse which his Majesty has printed is intended to excuse himself from the charge of meddling; his Ambassador uses some phrases to urge the States to expel Vorstius from their territory, on the ground that he is not only a heretic but an infidel. No one can doubt the King's favourable disposition, on grounds of State he will always be closely allied to the United Provinces.

Three galleons will soon be commissioned for the new route to the Indies, which if it turns out to be what is reported, will, beyond

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doubt be a mortal blow to Spain. Great hopes are already built upon it, and the only doubt is lest a part of the sea through which they have to sail should be frozen for the larger part of the year, and therefore open only for a few months and those not certain, as the cold comes now earlier now later; in that case it would be difficult to send through ships laden with goods so exactly at the right moment that they would be sure of finding the passage open. The larger number of men of experience, however, do not feel this doubt, and give their reasons. A company is being formed among a number of leading merchants to trade with the Indies by that route.

London, first of March, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 2. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

447. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador confirms what the Spanish Ambassador told me concerning the marriage of a sister of the Grand Duke to the Prince, and that an Embassy was to arrive in spring. The Prince was not disposed towards this match because the large dower which is offered would not come into his hands nor be applied for the good of the Crown, but would very soon be scattered by the King's profusion, besides which he thinks he need have no difficulty in finding money, as he is heir to so many Crowns. (*Che la volontà di S. A. non concorri prontamente a questa trattatione perche li denari che vengono offerti in gran quantità per dote non caderiano in sua mano ne a profitto della Corona ma in poco tempo sarebbono profusi dalla singolar liberalità del Rè; oltre che considera non gliene poter mancare sendo herede di tante Corone.*)

He says he would rather marry a subject, which makes people think there may be some particular one in his view. On the other hand the King and Council are not averse, and if his Majesty came to terms the Prince would have to bow to his father's will. The Grand Duke, already allied to France and to Spain, *might easily, if united to this Crown, secure the title of King. The chief opposition would come from the Electors and the other Princes of Germany and this opposition would disappear if he became allied to the King of England, who has such weight with them. The King of Spain would be glad to have among the number of his "captives"—that is the word he uses—a King; while France would be favourable. I am told that this marriage was an old desire of the Grand Duchess dowager and of the late Grand Duke. They have now six millions of gold laid by and they would think the half of it well employed to make them King. The Ambassador went on talking to me about this for half an hour, just as though your Serenity were not an Italian Prince and as though it was nothing to you to see a King in Italy. He thinks the match may come off, as there is no further hope of Spain or France, and the Prince, with whom the Queen agrees, will not take a wife in England. There is no other quarter from which so much money could be got as that which the Grand Duke offers, and there is great need of money here on account of the expenditure by the King; moreover, on the sea both parties could seriously hamper one another; and so one can easily understand what I have heard from the*

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lips of one who is in their councils and knows what is proposed and resolved, that is, in order to remove all cause of difficulty about the pirates, to grant them a port where they can bring their goods without taxation, and this on the other hand would cause Leghorn to flourish much more than it does at present.

He then went on to speak of the Savoyard Ambassador who was here recently. This Ambassador had reported to the Duke that the French Ambassador had opposed his negotiations for the match with the Princess Elizabeth; whereupon the Duke had written to the Queen of France complaining that not only had she deprived him of the Princess of France, who had been granted to him by the late King her father, but she had wished to rob him of the English Princess as well; to which the Queen had replied by telling him the simple truth. The Savoyard Ambassador is in Paris. He has not yet asked for audience, and is waiting the return of a courier with instructions from his Highness. Over and above M. de Jacob there is another Ambassador Extraordinary of the Duke, so that he has three Ambassadors at once in Paris. In his opinion *the Queen will take the Duke under her protection and will even defend him if threatened.*

The French Ambassador complained of the conduct of the Savoyard while here, and laid more stress on a personal pique than on the express orders of his Highness to present letters to the French Ambassador. It seems that at first the Savoyard had intended to treat me with confidence, but the suggestions of the Spanish Ambassador prevented that, yet in spite of appearances there was not that confidence between the Savoyard and the Spaniard that there seemed to be. The Savoyard had not succeeded in making a single friend, and his method of conducting his affairs had ruined his negotiations. Sir Henry Wotton will be at Turin with excuses about the marriage, perhaps before the Ambassador himself gets there. The Duke is going to send another Ambassador very soon to the Queen of France. As to the Imperial Election he thought the only struggle would be between Mathias and Albert.

London, 2nd March, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

448. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

M. de Rosenberg, Agent for the United Provinces, told me in great secrecy and confidence that he had certain information from England that the King of Spain in December last instructed his Ambassador at the English Court to find out from Lord Salisbury whether negotiations for a match between the Princess and his Catholic Majesty would be acceptable to the King; and that the Ambassador at an interview with Lord Salisbury received encouragement to broach the subject to the King himself. The Dutch are suspicious that the King, though very hostile to our religion, may yet be induced by reasons of State to give his daughter to his Catholic Majesty in order to unite himself to this Crown which is already united so closely to France, and thus to secure himself from molestation from one side or the other, and besides, such a step would prevent the variety of religions in his kingdom from breeding

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conspiracy, as has happened on other occasions owing to the hopes entertained by some that they would be protected from Spain under the guise of religious zeal. On the other hand the King of Spain will not be averse from such a match, in spite of the risk of increasing his progeny, which is apt to cause troubles, for if he secures the goodwill of England that would help on the peace with Holland, and even if he could not settle it after his own fashion he would at least tie the hands of both France and England, so that they could no longer give the Dutch that open assistance which they have hitherto been wont to do; and any way he would secure the main object of his policy, which is to preserve peace with the great powers, as the Spanish are content to enjoy their territories and to gather strength in times of quiet the better to advance when the opportunity presents itself.

The Dutch Agent affirmed all this so positively that I am inclined to believe it, knowing how vigilant are the Dutch in a matter that affects them so much. I do not place any reliance on the English Ambassador's denial, for he denied at first that there were any negotiations for the Prince of Wales.

Madrid, 4th March, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

March 6. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

449. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Queen has ordered M. de Rogi to get ready to take up his ordinary Embassy to Mathias, at Prague. The Duke of Savoy has ordered his Ambassador Alardo to return home, as he does not think it to his dignity to be represented here on the publication of the Spanish matches.

Paris, 6th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 6. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

450. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marshal de Bouillon is to leave for England on the 15th. He will convey an offer of the second Princess for the Prince of Wales. He is to endeavour to pacify the King on the subject of the Spanish matches, and to re-conduct him to that good will which he felt for this Crown at the death of Henry IV. Here the Queen and her Ministers have expressed themselves in very friendly terms to the English Ambassador. The Huguenots are watching all these steps, and hope to draw profit from them.

Paris, 6th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

451. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate

I sought audience of the King the same morning as the Ambassadors of the Archduke and of France. The French Ambassador

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was assigned Wednesday the last day of February, I, Saturday the third, and the Flemish Ambassador, Monday the fifth, and so this time, too, matters have gone in the right order.

The French Ambassador merely assured his Majesty that the Spanish matches would not disturb nor change in any way the good understanding that there is with this Crown. That the Marshal de Bouillon would soon be here to explain matters. He then touched on the subject of a book on the Papal authority published by a Councillor of the Parliament of Paris and the representations of the Nuncio on the subject; but the real object of his audience was to announce the coming of de Bouillon to remove from the King's mind any suspicions aroused by the double match with Spain. On the main point he had nothing but a few brief words from his Majesty. As to the book the King showed he had heard about it and was pleased. While the Ambassador was explaining to the King the answer given to the Lords of the Council on the subject of the presence of English subjects at Mass, the King showed that he intended the observations of the Council, made on his behalf, to have effect. I know that his Majesty was not fully satisfied on this subject, nor had the Ambassador's representations much effect.

I first congratulated the King on his good health. I found him more anxious and reserved than usual on account of the Earl of Salisbury's indisposition, and the amount of work which falls on him. I then said that the Council had already communicated his Majesty's desires as regards the admission of Englishmen to Mass in the Embassies, and the reply I had made, and I thought it now my duty to repeat this to his Majesty, so that he might know what were your Excellencies' wishes in the matter. I accordingly began to repeat to his Majesty what I had said to the Council. At the point about the promise to refuse admission to the church to English subjects or to allow the officers to do their duty, I paused and observed that there were two things to be considered, one affecting his Majesty's service, the other the dignity of your Serenity. As to the first, he would always receive satisfaction; as to the second, I remarked that the Ambassadors of the Serene Republic are every where treated on a par with Ambassadors of great Sovreigns, and this treatment could not under any conceivable circumstances be altered, and on this point I dwelt at abundant length. The King replied that the whole difficulty arose in the first case from the conduct of the Spanish Ambassador, who caused more than one Mass to be said daily and invited attendance by ringing of bells, causing a universal scandal that could not be endured. At the time of Don Pedro di Zuñiga there was a solemn procession in the garden of the Embassy and a great crowd of people. At the French Embassy there is not such a concourse, and the attitude is more modest and circumspect. The King did not conceal from me the annoyance he received at the last audience when the Ambassador pointed out to him that his position was different from that of the rest, for in France his Majesty's Ambassador has sermons preached and admits freely to the Protestant service all those who wish to attend, and so it is not fair to deny to him in England the same freedom which is conceded to his Majesty's Ambassador in France. His Majesty pointed out that there was a fallacy in this argument,

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for in France there was professedly liberty of conscience, which was not the case in England. The King told me little about the Flemish Ambassador's audience, but showed small satisfaction. He remarked that it was impossible to say that peace would continue in France, for every day some new trouble sprang up. The Queen had chosen to conclude the matches against the advice of the great nobles, and relying solely on the views of Villeroy and the Chancellor. *Her leanings are Spanish, so too are those of Villeroy who belonged to the League. He dwelt on the importance of these matches, and observed that the alliance between France and Spain was far advanced. Bouillon has openly said that he did not intend to come here with mere words, but with sure basis for his proposals; this, he said, was an honest man's course, for if what he promised was not maintained his honour was at stake.*

He then went on to speak of the Protestant Princes at present met in Heidelberg in large numbers to discuss two points, the Union and the Imperial Election. After they have come to some resolution they will send an Ambassador here to give a full report to his Majesty. Talking of the Election, I gathered that he thought Mathias was far ahead, as he was Master of the Imperial treasury, King of Bohemia and Hungary, supported by the three Catholic Electors and by his own vote. As he is an old man, with a young wife who is never from his side, he may possibly not live long. He told me of the Archduke Albert's request for support in the election of King of the Romans; he had on another occasion of a similar request, informed the King of France. He said not a word about the King of Denmark, nor about the mission of Wotton to Turin. In short, I seemed to gather three things from his Majesty's conversation, annoyance at the Franco-Spanish matches; an opinion that as regards the Imperial Election matters are undecided, but, so far, appearances are in favour of Mathias; and very great annoyance at his subjects for attending Mass at the Embassies, and more especially at some Embassies; he thinks the results may be very pernicious. He declares that if he were a subject and a Catholic he would attend Mass any where but at an Embassy.

London, 9th March, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

452. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Danish Ambassador has got leave from the King to enrol as many foot and horse as he thinks fit. They are to be paid with Danish money, and his Majesty is to be at no charges. The Envoy continues his negotiations, but the illness of Lord Salisbury, which still goes on though he is out of danger, delays his complete discharge. It is said that the Envoy will not leave yet, but will wait till the arrival of the Ambassador from the Princes assembled at Heidelberg.

Three days ago Sir Henry Wotton's instructions were under discussion. He had a long interview with the King and will set out in a very few days. Your Excellencies shall be duly informed of the nature of his orders.

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The King has visited Lord Salisbury daily and has stayed whole hours with him. He is fully aware of the value to himself of this great Minister.

My last news from the Hague, dated the 15th of last month, report all quiet. The Secretary of the States General returned without any satisfaction on the points which he discussed with the Council of Brabant. The same day, the 15th, the French Ambassador had an interview with the States General and with Count Maurice; the result was unknown as yet to my correspondent. The Ambassador was still waiting an answer from France. It appears that Imperial administration during an interregnum devolves on the Elector Palatine in virtue of the Golden Bull of Charles IV. The Protestant Princes are advancing steadily.

The Spanish Ambassador shows that he thinks there may be some difficulty about the Election of an Emperor, but that Mathias will succeed. He is keeping his eye on the negotiations of the Protestant Princes at this Court, and thinks if they cannot carry Denmark they will endeavour to sow dissension between Mathias and Albert, and so procure delay.

The King of Sweden is treating for a truce with Poland.

London, 9th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

453. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King speaking of one of the Theologians of your Serenity called Marsilio, who is dangerously ill, expressed his sorrow, saying that Marsilio wrote very well, that he had read Marsilio's writings; and then he added that a certain friar when confessing Marsilio had raised as a point of conscience his support of the arguments of your Excellencies, and urged him to retract; but Marsilio after insisting on the force of those arguments reaffirmed what he had written, saying "quod scripsi scripsi." His Majesty then said that he was doing all that lay in him to imitate the primitive Church, and complained of being called heretical. All this he said very briefly. He then went on to speak of the book recently printed in Paris on the subject of Papal authority, and the opinions of the Jesuits. He said that Bellarmin's early writings are different from those he published as Cardinal, nay, almost contradictory. He remarked that the Blessed Virgin is called by the Jesuits *Dea*, but I observed that this could not be said, for it was neither Catholic nor sound doctrine. The King replied "Let it be said that the Pope does not approve of certain opinions of this nature which are absolutely and palpably contrary to the truth, yet one sees books published which contain them, and I think it all one whether a person says a thing or allows it to be said. The Jesuits are gradually building up a religion according to their own wishes; and truly anyone who takes up the doctrine and faith as expressed by the Sorbonne and compares it with that taught by the Jesuits, will find an infinity of differences and incompatabilities between one and the other." His Majesty showed

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that he approved of and associated himself with the opinions of the Sorbonne, and going on about the "Jesuits" he blamed their impertinence in taking such a name, saying that "Christian" is the proper style according to the teaching of Christ Himself. "I know not what grace or virtue they have above their fellow faithful that they should appropriate the name they do, calling themselves 'the Company of Jesu,' as if by some privilege they were superior to other religious bodies, who, as is fitting, take modest names such as 'Servites' and 'Minorites' and so on." He blamed Jesuit interference in matters of State; and then turning to the discourse he had recently published against Vorstius, he said that he had defended therein the faith that is called Roman quite as much as any other creed of Christians; I replied that in truth his Majesty could not have spoken in more Catholic terms nor with greater piety; and that is actually the case. I praised his eloquence and lively style of presentation; his profound ideas. This pleased his Majesty, who, for a while, went on to discuss with me the substance of his discourse, which I, foreseeing some such occasion, had looked at several times. His Majesty declared that I proved my understanding of the matter, and I amplified my praises of him.

London, 9th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

454. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of the Archduke Albert, who at his first coming showed a desire to be on good terms with me, soon began to display the vast pretensions of his Master to take precedence of your Serenity. Knowing how fruitlessly for many years the other Ambassadors of your Excellencies had sought to secure a decision from the King on the subject, and deeming it an indignity to the Serene Republic to call in doubt a point so certain as that of your pre-eminence over the Archduke and all other Princes who are not Crowned Heads, I came to the resolve to ignore the Archduke's pretensions and to insist that your Excellencies shall be treated here on all occasions as the equals of Crowned Heads, as is done at all other Courts. In order to open the matter I made use of the help of Sir Henry Wotton, late Ambassador to your Serenity. I was aware that the whole success of this matter depended on secrecy, which would defeat the representations of those who are jealous or ill disposed, and so without consulting any one except him whom I thought likely to be of assistance towards a favourable issue, I sought audience of Lord Salisbury and the 20th of January was named for me. I began to deal with his Excellency, knowing full well how necessary it was at the very outset to inform this most important Minister and to gain his goodwill. I said that it was the custom in Rome and Spain and all other Courts, not only of Christendom but also of the Grand Turk, to treat the Ambassadors of your Excellencies on a footing with the Ambassadors of Crowned Heads in all respects, and so they ought to be treated here, starting from a certain exemption from the duties on wine, an exemption granted to the representatives of Crowned Heads but not of other Princes. His Excellency entered into a

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long conversation with me, and asked me many questions and raised many points. He assured me that as a fact in granting this exemption the King and his Council had taken into consideration the greatness of the Princes and had made a difference between Crowned and Uncrowned Heads. In fine he concluded by saying that a matter of such importance could not be settled without the knowledge and the orders of the King, before whom Lord Salisbury promised to lay my request. He asked me, if, supposing the Ambassadors of France and Spain should object to your Excellencies' representative being put on an equal footing with them, or if the Archduke's Ambassador should complain of this innovation and demand a like concession for himself, I would take this as an insult. I replied that the Envoys of Kings were accustomed to have as companions the Ambassadors of the Serene Republic, and as to the Archduke the King could easily reply, without offence, that he was only doing what other Sovreigns did; I enlarged upon the treatment your Ambassadors receive in other Courts of Christendom, and I wound up by saying that the Republic was a Prince so great, so friendly, so powerful in the kingdoms and states which it possessed that there was no possibility of comparing it to the Archduke nor to any one else. If there were a doubt in the mind of his Majesty let him take information as to what was done elsewhere; and in any case I did not intend to be associated with any one. And so after upwards of two hours' discussion, I took my leave without having got anything more than what I have written. I can see quite well that your Excellencies' most cogent reasons do not convince the well-disposed mind of the Earl of Salisbury, though they had their effect as the issue showed. Some days afterwards Sir Henry Wotton came to say that it was necessary for me to put into writing the nature of the treatment of the Venetian Ambassadors in Rome and Spain. I replied that it was the treatment shown to Crowned Heads, and I put down the particulars in writing, a copy of which I here enclose. The most excellent results came from this; nor have I omitted to gently press his Excellency from time to time; and on the King's arrival I asked for audience in order to conclude the business. This was granted me on Saturday the third of this month. I laid my case before him, and your Serenity will gather the nature of the answer from the enclosed.

London, 9th March, 1612.

[*Italian*; *deciphered.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

455. Information given to the Earl of Salisbury.

The Ambassadors of the Serene Signory are treated in Rome and in Spain on a parity in all respects with the Ambassadors of Kings.

Royal Ambassadors at Rome have audience in the Sala Regia, those of the Archduke, the Grand Duke and all the other Dukes, without distinction, are received in the Sala Ducale. The Pope gives Royal Ambassadors the title of Excellency and usually causes them to be seated.

In Spain when Royal Ambassadors enter the presence the King raises his hat and then causes them to be covered. They have a seat in Chapel. By royal command everyone is obliged to give them their title.

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None but Grandees may have as many horses to their carriages as Ambassadors do; nor have lacqueys. They are not under the Pragmatic. The King does not raise his hat to the Ambassadors of Archdukes, or Dukes or Grand Dukes, nor are they invited to be covered; they have no seat in Chapel, nor are they addressed by their style; they have not the same number of horses as the Royal Ambassadors, from whom they are different in all respects. I kiss your hand.

From my house in London, 18th January, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 10. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

456. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

No news from England as to when Sir Henry Wotton will start on his mission. The Duke is little pleased with the result of Count Ruffia's mission; he might even show anger did he not think it would injure his own interests to do so. Any way Ruffia is less about the Court than he was.

Turin; 10th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 10. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

457. Simon Contarini and Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassadors in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassadors of France and England are still quarrelling; and on the subject of the covering flag for the Dutch (Fiamenghi) *they are back at the same point, neither being willing to abide by the agreement of their predecessors.*

Stefan Bogdan, who became a Turk, not content with the Sanjak of Pistrina, was given the Sanjak of Brusa. He is supported by the Capudan Pasha.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 10th March, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

March 10. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

458. Simon Contarini and Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassadors in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The question of pirates. Complaints made by the Venetians that an English pirate, a renegade, had captured a ship, the "Valnegrina," bound for Alexandria, via Candia, and was supported by the Turks in Tunis and Modon. This is a violation of the treaty of peace. The Turkish officials assist the pirates and their agent is a certain Jew resident in Constantinople, who acts as middleman for the sale of the plunder, in the profits of which the Turkish officials share. It is now impossible to distinguish between times of war and of peace. The Ambassadors begged for the restitution of the booty and the punishment of officials in Tunis and Modon. The Vizir paid close attention to these remarks, and asked who it was that had captured the "Valnegrina"; the Ambassador said it was Ward (Guart) *an English renegade, who was received and supported in Tunis by Turkish officials. The Pasha asked if I was sure, and I replied that I was*

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certain, as I had the information from the commander of our squadron. The Pasha replied "It is all your own fault; you insist on the general term Christians; and yet sometimes it is Christians under the guise of Turks who do the mischief. In the past there were none of these galleons, and cursed be he who introduced them. In the old days a caramusale* *without artillery went and returned alone from Alexandria; now the galleons must sail fully armed and in company, nor is that enough, they must have an escort of galleys too. He said it was this that made Sultan Selim think of capturing Cyprus. He said that now that there were in Constantinople Ambassadors of France, England and Venice, they should come to a common understanding for the suppression of piracy. I replied that this would be very much to the purpose if each of the parties did its duty as Venice did, for she always kept a large fleet at sea; but the pirates continually took shelter in Barbary where they were at home, or under the guns of the fortresses of Modon, Coron and Santa Maura, which opened fire on our ships, and therefore it was necessary not merely to attack the pirates but to punish the Turkish officials. The Pasha replied that when he was in Cairo he sent a* caramusale *home with goods belonging to him, she was captured by* bertons *and run into Crete, where the Christians were set free. I replied that this could not have happened under the walls of a town, but perhaps on some deserted shore. The Pasha said "No, they went into port and were feasted." I begged him to believe that in no port and under no fortress of the Republic was shelter given to pirates, the Governor-General of Candia, Capello, sent to Turkey a large number of captive Turks, and even received a robe in acknowledgement; Venetian officers always executed pirates if they caught them, as for examples, Lorenzo Venier and Francesco Moresini, the one caught and hung, on a reef off Zante, two pirate captains and their gang; the other hanged twelve pirates from the yard of his ship in sight of Milos, and all the subjects of the Grand Turk rejoiced. The Pasha seemed somewhat convinced, and then said "Why have you changed the build of your ships? Why do you send out* bertons *that look like buccaneers?" I said that all Venetian ships were still built on the old lines, and if there was a* berton *found among them she was merely one captured from the pirates. The Pasha declared that the ships which infest the sea are manned by Spaniards, French, English and Venetians.*

The French Ambassador informed the Venetian about the arrival of an Ambassador from the United Provinces, and suggested that the English and Venetian Ambassadors should act in concert with him for their common interest. Both the English and the French had been, separately, to the Grand Vizir, who replied that the Porte was open to all.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 10th March, 1612.

[*Italian, deciphered.*]

March 10. Capi del Consiglio de'Dieci, Notatario. Venetian Archives.

459. The Chiefs of the Council of Ten, having received from the Riformatori dello Studio di Padova a certificate based on the report of the two Examiners, namely the Reverend Father

* Gugliemotti "Vocabolario marino e militare," describes a *caramusale* as a merchant ship of three masts, very high poop, long, fine lines, about four hundred tons burden.

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Inquisitor and the "Circumspect" Secretary of the Senate, Giovanni Maraveglia, who declare on oath that in the book called "Calepinus Parvus, additions" by David Colville, a Scot, additions made to another book called "Dictionarium Cæsaris Calderini" printed in Venice by another printer, there is nothing contrary to the laws, and that it is worthy of being printed, grant licence for the book to issue in this City.

Marco Trivisan, Chief of the Ten.
Andrea Contarini, Chief of the Ten.
Giust. Antonio Belegno, Chief of the Ten.

The book was presented for examination on March 11th, 1611.

March 10th, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 12. Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

460. Girolamo Soranzo, Venetian Ambassador in Germany, to the Doge and Senate.

The King of Denmark is a candidate for the Imperial throne he is warmly supported by the King of England; but the Spanish hope to settle the business favourably to themselves.

Prague, 12th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

461. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

In the audience I had on the 3rd, seeing his Majesty in a good humour while discussing his pamphlet against Vorstius, I praised him in terms of admiration, and then took up the point of your Excellencies' greatness, upon which I paused and dwelt on purpose, and I proceeded to say, "Sire, I have told your Majesty that the Serene Republic is treated both at Rome and in Spain and elsewhere, in the person of its Ambassadors, absolutely on an equality with Crowned Heads, without the lightest distinction; I must now add that as what I affirm is strictly true, it is only reasonable that the same course should, without any further delay, be pursued here; this is called for by the love which the Republic bears to your Majesty, and every principle of equity and friendship combines to urge it. I ask this at your Majesty's hands, and I declare that at the present moment the exemption which is conceded to the Ambassadors of Kings constitutes a distinction between them and the Envoys of other Princes. Let your Majesty begin by placing the Venetian Ambassador among the former; let your Majesty this very morning act as do all other Sovreigns." The King replied that he esteemed and loved the Republic as much as it was possible to do, and he desired to do me a favour, but that the Ambassador of the Archduke would be sure to come straight to him and make the same request in strong and violent language; implying that it is necessary to find some answer to give him, and showing that it was on this point that there arose a doubt and an obstacle: for granting that your Serenity is the peer of Sovreigns, as I affirmed, and the superior of the Archduke, the Ambassador will say that the Archduke is also the peer of Sovreigns, for he is styled "brother," both by the King of

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England and by those of France and Spain, and is given the title of "Most Serene." Moreover, before sending his Ambassador here he insisted on assurances that the Envoy would be treated as such. The King went on to take the example of the King of France and a small King, and said that as Kings they were both in the same rank and enjoyed the same royal dignity. I replied that your Serenity had nothing to do with the Archduke Albert; he is among the number of Princes, while your Excellencies are in the rank of Kings, and so there is the difference of species, nor did I know anything of the claims he might put forward. My claims had nothing to do with the Archduke or with anyone else. The position of your Excellencies, as a Prince with one thousand two hundred years behind him, was quite well understood by the whole world. Then passing from this universal consideration I came to particulars, and proved that your Serenity is among the number of Kings while the Archduke is classed with all other Princes; I pointed out that at Rome there are two audience chambers, one for Ambassadors of Kings and one for Ambassadors of Princes, and your Excellencies' Envoys are received in the former, while the Archduke's Envoys are received in the latter. Here the King made signs of approval, both in gesture and in word, and I went on to say that the Envoys of Kings and of your Excellencies are honoured by the Pope with the style of "Excellency," and are asked to be seated; that in Spain the King uncovers to the Ambassadors of Kings and of your Serenity, and causes them to be covered, whereas he does not uncover to the Ambassadors of the Archduke or of other Princes, and causes them to address him uncovered. Your Serenity's Ambassadors are allowed four lacqueys and the privileged number of horses, which is refused to the Envoys of Princes. The Ambassadors of Kings and of your Serenity are not subject to the Pragmatic and have a seat in Chapel; the Ambassadors of Princes are excluded, and altogether are treated differently. All this I had laid before the Earl of Salisbury. I concluded that surely his Majesty, who loved the Republic so, and had come to her assistance in her straights, would not now treat her worse than she was treated by the Pope and his Catholic Majesty, who is so closely connected with the Archduke and the House of Austria. The King listened with the closest attention and continually approved; he showed that he grasped my remarks as unanswerable. He said that all this was new to him, nor had he ever been informed of it. He showed astonishment at the Archduke's pretensions, saying, "If what you tell me is true I am amazed at the Archduke's claim." I then drew up and changing my voice I said, "Sire, these are matters of fact; you have an Ambassador in Spain and the means of finding out what is done there; make enquiries and if it be not as I say, never trust my word again, nor ever grant my request; but if on the other hand you should find it true then pray do this honour to the Republic that so loves you and to me who am your devoted servant." The King said that he felt profoundly the force of my arguments and gave me every hope, but added that of course I was aware that Princes did not pledge their word; this was the first time I had told him all this, and owing to the Earl of Salisbury's indisposition he had not been able to get information. As I was taking my leave the King again showed that he was struck by the arguments in your Excellencies' favour, and he told me that he would that very day see Lord Salisbury so as to conclude this

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affair. I was accompanied by the Chamberlain and by the brothers Lord and Sir Henry Wotton, and by Lewkenor the Master of the Ceremonies. I am aware that I have made a strong impression on the King's mind, and I have good hopes that the case is the same with the Earl of Salisbury. After making my compliments as was due, to the other gentlemen, I went for a walk in the Park with Sir Henry Wotton alone. I told him what had taken place, assured him of the King's favourable disposition, and begged him to seek his Majesty and to urge the conclusion of the business. I requested him to lend his aid, and he promised to do so. The King kept his chamber all morning and dined there, then spent a long time in Lord Salisbury's chamber, and so Sir Henry could not give effect to his promise till evening. He discovered that his Majesty had spoken on the subject to the Earl of Salisbury as he promised to do, and Lord Salisbury had given a very favourable answer; so that a happy issue may be looked for. I am certain that his Majesty also showed some specially good will towards me. On Monday the King promised to treat the Ambassador of your Excellencies on a par with Envoys of Kings, and began by giving orders that the Venetian Ambassador should be differentiated from the Archduke's Ambassador and placed on an equality with France and Spain; this was carried into effect the next morning, and Sir Henry Wotton at once sent his nephew to tell me of his Majesty's orders. Actual effect has not yet been obtained nor has the order been entered in writing owing to the indisposition of the Secretary whose duty it is. Sir Henry Wotton urges that another Secretary should be employed; I shall not desist until I see the matter ended.

Yesterday when I had audience of the Queen she frequently employed the title of "Excellency," which has never happened to me before, nor I believe to any other Ambassador of your Excellencies, and so this must be an express order from the King. I will make sure on this point and also whether the title is always to be given to your Serenity's Ambassadors. I must not conceal from your Excellencies that at my interview with Lord Salisbury he said to me that I had gained such points over the Archduke as none of my predecessors had been able to gain. I replied that I was well aware that whoever is numbered with Sovreigns takes precedence of the Archduke and all the rest.

London, 14 March, 1612.

[*Italian*; *deciphered.*]

March 16. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

462. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Queen received me on Monday under the baldacchino, where she was attended by a great company of Ladies and Gentlemen. I congratulated her Majesty on her good health after her recent indisposition. She asked me what news I had from Italy, and what they thought at Venice about the Franco-Spanish matches. I said I had nothing worthy of her Majesty's notice; and as for the matches I imagined that at Venice as elsewhere they were considered as settled; thus passing over the question as to what was thought about them. I added that the matches here were also on a fair way to conclusion. The Queen showed that

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she understood my allusion to the Palatine, and said that the King and the Council were greatly in its favour but did not express her own views one way or another. I said I heard there was a proposal of a sister of the Grand Duke for the Prince. The Queen replied, smiling, but showed that she did not approve of the idea as being not worthy of the Prince. I said that his qualities, in truth, merited a daughter of France or Spain. Her Majesty listened with satisfaction and showed particular approval of a Spanish Princess. She told me that de Bouillon was coming to apologise for the failure to give notice of the Franco-Spanish matches, and to assure the English that it was the firm resolve of the King and Queen to stand well with this Crown. She spoke very highly of the Marshal. Speaking of the sister of the Grand Duke for the Prince she said that "a man" was coming about it; that is the word she used. I have reported all this because though the Queen does not mix herself up in affairs, still she may sometimes know what is going on as the King tells her any thing she chooses to ask, and loves and esteems her. The rest of our conversation was on various topics, which I omit to report so as not to multiply words needlessly; and so after an hour or more, I took my leave. The Florentine Secretary has been to see me more than once; he has let me understand very clearly that there may be some negotiation with the Prince, but that as far as arrangements have as yet been made, no Ambassador will come here in spring. The arrival of the Marshal de Bouillon is delayed for a day or two. The French Ambassador tells me that by the 20th of this month two Spanish Ambassadors will be in Paris with all the details about the marriages, which will then be published, and the Duke of Mayenne will go at once to Spain. The Duke of Savoy continues his negotiations and is asking the second Princess of France for the Prince of Piedmont. *The Queen has promptly listened to his prayer and has taken him under her protection, as was seen at the time when he was in strained relations with Spain and his Ambassadors were excluded from the Catholic Court.* The Duke of Bouillon besides explaining about the Spanish matches will have some other topic to handle. Vendome, not Epernon, is to go to Rome. The Spanish Ambassador is informed that the Duke of Savoy is negotiating a match between the Prince, his son, and the second sister of the King of France; but when the French Ambassador heard this he said there was a vast difference between treating and asking, thus indicating that the Duke's proposals are not held in much account. Both Ambassadors agree that the Duke had urged the Queen to grant him the second Princess, as she had taken away from him the first. All this has come to the ears not only of his Majesty but also of many persons about the Court, and very likely from more than one quarter, and will most assuredly damage his Highness' chances of success in his negotiations here. An Ambassador Extraordinary is to go to Turin upon this business and will take a very doubtful answer and conditions that the Duke can hardly accept. Sir Henry Wotton, who has this appointment, has had long audiences of the King, and is beginning to receive his instructions; he will soon take his departure, as he himself has said.

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The Earl of Salisbury is still ill, he has had a relapse and his condition is dangerous in a frame so weak and exhausted. Medical opinion varies. Swellings of the thighs disturb him greatly, and while he is thus harassed in body he is also forced frequently to toil with his brain, as the King relies solely on him even in this plight. He is visited daily by the King, the Queen and the Prince. His sickness has proved more clearly than ever how necessary are his great qualities for the good government of these Kingdoms. As a consequence all the more important business is delayed and can not be wound up till he is well, as his Majesty himself affirms.

The King of Denmark is urging the despatch of his supports, and in twenty days or so Lord Willoughby will begin to embark his men.

London, 16th March, 1612.

Postscript. Lord Salisbury has sent to thank me for my visits and to say that he is better. Please God that the improvement may continue.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 17. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

463. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

A Frenchman has arrived here, who has brought into the port of Leghorn a vessel fully armed; he asks leave to fly the Grand Duke's flag as a privateer; but as far as I am informed his Highness is not disposed to grant it; and unless he is warmly supported by some powerful hand that is wont to favour that nation it is unlikely that he will get it.

Florence, 17th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 18. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

464. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

After the return of Captain Giovanni Alardo, who was sent on a mission to Paris in the train of Lesdiguières, to ask for the conclusion of the match, and his report that he had received no promise on the subject, the rumour is going round that there is some negotiation on foot to marry the second Princess to the Prince of Wales. I do not know if this is really the case or invented by Alardo to put forward an opinion different from M. de Jacob's.

Turin, 18th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 19. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

465. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Alardo, Envoy Extraordinary of Savoy, has left without having gained any of his points. To Villeroy's answer that outside the questions of the Princess, of war and of territory, the Queen was

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ready to help his Highness, Alardo asked "In what way, then?" and Villeroy replied that it was for the Duke to make a suggestion; as neither would go further, the matter dropped. The Duke recalled his Ambassador and said he would send another Envoy to Jacob, with instructions. His intention was to ask the hand of the second Princess, but he perceived that, owing to the Queen's preference for the Prince of Wales, his design met little favour; and Alardo, at his audience of leave-taking, declared that the House of Savoy would always preserve the document creating the alliance by marriage which Henry the Fourth had granted to the Duke.

Paris, 19th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 19. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

466. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke of Guise is making great preparations to celebrate the Spanish matches, and the English Ambassador could not refrain from reproaching him for this after he had assured the Ambassador that the marriages would not take place; and he dwelt on the close connection of Guise to his Sovereign.

Paris, 19th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 24. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Florence, Venetian Archives.

467. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Frenchman has obtained leave to fly the Grand Duke's flag, on condition that he does not molest Christians, and especially Venetians. He is to deposit sufficient caution in Leghorn. It is supposed that this was done to please the Duke of Guise who was interested on his behalf. They have made this concession in the firm belief that the Frenchman cannot fulfil the condition about the caution money.

Florence, 24th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 24. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

468. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I continued to press the point of precedence in such a way that on Sunday, the 19th, orders were given to another Secretary to carry out the King's commands. To-day they have brought me the exemption in precisely the same terms as it is conceded to France and Spain, and altogether different from the Archduke. I will ask for audience to-morrow, when the King will be here. The day before yesterday he was at Hampton Court. I will thank his Majesty and also Lord Salisbury as soon as his health permits. I do not know whether his Majesty has instructed his Ambassador to give you an account of all this or to wait till he be thanked by your Excellencies.

London, 24th March, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

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Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

469. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

It is clear that before proceeding to the election of an Emperor, the Protestant Princes desire that many disorders should be regulated and the Imperial authority reduced with the limits which at one time confined it. They desire the enforcement of the Imperial Constitution. It seems natural that the Ecclesiatical Electors should concur as it affects the dignity of the Empire and also their own authority. The Protestant Electors wish to modify the Imperial authority in such a way that the Emperor, in all more important matters, can not come to a decision without the opinion of the Electoral body, as was the custom years ago. The French Ambassador said to me that this was a necessary reform which must be made before they proceeded to Elect an Emperor otherwise it would meet with too serious opposition from the new Cesar. His Most Christian Majesty and the King of England will both support the Electors. Your Excellencies will easily grasp the importance of these ideas and the readiness with which they may be made the subject of important divergences. The Spanish Ambassador fears that the affairs of Germany cannot remain quiet as the Protestant Princes continue to raise troops, though each is acting separately in this. It is doubtful whether the Coadjutor of Cologne can have a vote at the coming election, as there is a clear rule on the subject that he who votes must have had the Imperial confirmation, a condition which the Coadjutor does not fulfil. The Spanish Ambassador is in hopes that the Duke of Saxony has been entirely won over by his master, but the other party does not give the Duke up for lost, and there may be a doubt about his vote if Mathias in any way helps his own Election, and that in virtue of the resolution taken by all the Electors at the Diet of Nürenburg. There are also signs of discord in other quarters. From all this one may gather that either Mathias will be elected immediately or that the Election will be drawn out for a long time, with all sorts of unexpected surprises; and this is the opinion of those who know best.

The French Ambassador told me that the Spaniards are trying for the simultaneous Election of the Emperor and of the King of the Romans, and the competitors will be numerous; but King Mathias will always be opposed and for other reasons it is not likely that it will take place. The Danish Ambassador is still here. He has received some money and is hastening on the levy. He will not leave till an Ambassador arrives from the Federated Princes with the resolutions adopted at Heidelberg, which will lay down the policy to be followed in German affairs and those related to them.

It is thought that the Franco-Spanish alliance has its roots in the desire to maintain the tranquillity of France during the King's minority, and to allow the King of Spain to rest secure as regards French arms, which at all times have counterbalanced him. The Spanish Ambassador said to me that he did not think much of the alliance between England, Denmark, Holland and the Protestant Princes provided the alliance between Spain and France was sincere and there was no cowardly intent hidden beneath the cloak. From these and other remarks it

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seems that the union is more specious than real. The Pope and the Grand Duke will follow the wishes of the two Kings. France's object is to prevent Spain from advancing.

The two Spanish Ambassadors who are to go to Paris on the subject of the marriages are the Marchese Spinola and Don Rodriquez de Calderon. Both will pass on to Flanders, the first to take up his duties as Master of the Camp, and he is much pleased at having been made a Grandee and Member of the Council of War, the other as Ambassador Extraordinary to the Archduke, to give an account of the reciprocal matches. Spinola may go to Germany, and Calderon, perhaps, has some instructions touching the Archduke's election as King of the Romans.

The Earl of Salisbury is still indisposed, but even in this plight he is master of himself; all the same as every act receives its impulse from him, all business proceeds very slowly.

The position of the Spanish Ambassador continues as I have described it; and he will soon withdraw from the city.

London, 24th March, 1612.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 25. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

470. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Count de la Motte has returned from his Embassy in Spain; the Duke enquired with great curiosity whether the King was likely to marry the English Princess; he thought the point of religion insuperable. De la Motte replied that if reasons of State demanded it a way would be found; he thought the other English condition, that the marriage should carry succession to Flanders, a greater obstacle. The English Ambassador is in such high favour at that court that it is impossible to form any opinion on the situation, though he only receives words and promises, no actual results.

Turin, 25th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 26. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

471. Christoforo Valier and Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassadors in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

At Valier's landing he was saluted by the French and English ships on the orders of those Ambassadors.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 26th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 29. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

472. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

To-day, at length, Sir Henry Wotton has left for Turin. He sent on ahead the horses which his Majesty is presenting to the Duke. Wotton will also give the Duke a sword* all studded with

* *See* Nichols op. cit. Vol. II. p. 438, note 3. "Sir Henry Wotton went away this day se'enight with the rich sword, which by good chance, he kept better than his own which was stolen out of his chamber the night before he went away, with full appearance, as it would seem, that it was the right one."

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beautiful diamonds and of great value. He will declare that the King has a great regard for the Duke, and desires to live on friendly terms with him. As to a matrimonial alliance he will dwell on the difficulties, and will add that when a way to remove them has been discovered his Majesty will be very ready to conclude the match; and in any case his Majesty desires to be as closely bound as possible to the Duke. And so this negotiation will vanish, for it is not in the Duke's power to remove the obstacles. Wotton will pass through France, but will not touch Paris. He has a noble and a numerous suite. He told me that this mission, including the present, which is of the richest, will cost the King a very large sum, larger perhaps than could be readily believed.

The Queen told me that "a man," so she calls him, from the Grand Duke would soon be here; and I learn from a good source that there is at Calais one of the Duke's Secretaries (Chiolli). He at once sent a courier to the Secretary here resident (Lotti) who instantly sent him back, and will go to meet the new-comer some miles away. As far as I have discovered as yet, the Secretary who is arriving is the one most in employ after Vinta, whose creature he is. At Paris he was with Botti for some days. I will use diligence to discover what his mission is and how he conducts it. The departure of the Marshal de Bouillon from Paris is being delayed. Besides his Mission from their Majesties, he will also negotiate on behalf of the Elector Palatine, who, it is rumoured, is coming to this Court in spring in the hope of winning the Princess.

The Dutch have recalled from abroad the officers in their pay; and General Cecil, who is one of them, will leave for Holland as he himself told me when he came to take his leave.

The levies for the King of Denmark are almost quite ready and the troops in large numbers begin to move down to the port of embarkation. Their pay is four dollars a month, and Pikes, Muskets and Harquebusses are counted as equal. The Captains, Lieutenants and Sergeants receive thirty, fifteen and twelve dollars a month. The pay begins from the day they go on board; the King bears all the expenses of the voyage, and payment is made weekly. The difficulty in raising these troops was due to two causes, the poverty of Sweden, where they are to be employed, and the cold which endures there almost all the year round. I have dwelt on these details as it may be of some interest to your Excellencies to have information of the terms on which you could raise troops here.

I saw Sir Henry Wotton before he left. He told me that after orders had been given to the temporary Secretary to issue the King's commands, the ordinary Secretary being somewhat recovered, undertook the duty. Wotton had met him in the antechamber of Lord Salisbury, and the Secretary had said he was quite ready to obey, but he wished to point out the drawbacks, for the French and Spanish Ambassadors would certainly complain that your Serenity's Ambassador was placed on a par with them while the Archduke's was left in so inferior a position. To this Wotton had replied that it was evident that the Secretary had been ill up to now, for he was not aware that his Majesty's order was intended precisely to honour the Venetian Ambassador as on a footing with Crowned Heads and that on account of the arguments brought

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forward and on the analogy of other Courts. The Secretary accordingly entered Lord Salisbury's chamber and the affair was concluded. This much I think it my duty to report, for I had first announced that the order was drawn up by another Secretary than Norton (*Nort*).

London, 29th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

473. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the morning of the 27th I had audience of the King. "Sire," I said, "I tender most humble thanks to your Majesty for the honour it has pleased you to show to the Serene Republic by resolving to treat her Ambassadors on a par with those of Crowned Heads, which places me under particular obligation," and I made a profound reverence. The King embraced me and said these very words: "I have done more than I promised you, for I first of all made myself sure of the facts in order to proceed with sound reasons and maturity of judgement." He added, "You have fully proved your assertion." I said that his Majesty had done a signal favour to your Serenity by proceeding with this caution for now he would employ the same method if anyone else endeavoured to make a similar claim, and he could always say "prove as much" and that would offend no one. The King agreed and said that to honour the Ambassador of the Republic as the Ambassadors of Crowned Heads are honoured could not cause offence to anyone, for he was only doing what other Sovereigns did. He let me understand that should anyone advance a similar claim he would employ the answer I suggested. I again tendered respectful thanks and begged him to take from his Ambassador in Spain and from Rome by any means that seemed good to him confirmation of what I had asserted; and further, in order that his Majesty might perceive that not only in Christendom was your Serenity treated with royal honours, I implored him to cause his Ambassador at the Porte to inform him whether your Representatives were not invited to banquet in Divan and treated in all respects on a par with the Ministers of Crowned Heads. The King promised to do so that very day when he was to see Lord Salisbury. I did not conceal from him that I thought it likely that your Excellencies would send letters of thanks for this favour; the King said he thought you would on the receipt of my despatches; and I venture to suggest that such a letter from your Serenity would be of great service in preserving the goodwill and excellent resolve of his Majesty. I went on to say that I was sure his Majesty must gladly have recognised your Serenity as a Sovereign more eminent than was believed. The King answered that he was aware that the Republic had owned and owns Kingdoms, and he mentioned Cyprus, but the particulars I had given him were quite new to him and of the highest importance, for he had thought that the first place after Crowned Heads belonged to your Excellencies but not more. I said "Sire, not after Kings but with Kings." The King said he

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was glad that I had been the instrument of this and it would prove to your Excellencies my favour with himself, and that the arguments I adduced had been proved by him, and if any one else makes a similar claim he will have to prove as much as I have done. I again urged his Majesty to obtain from his Ambassadors confirmation of what I had adduced.

I asked for this audience with the double object of thanking his Majesty and of closing the road to any attempt on the part of others to advance a similar claim, as I know has been done at other Courts. In both these objects I have succeeded, and I thank God.

The King then proceeded to touch on other topics. The Marshal de Bouillon is to set out at the end of this month and to this the King seemed to attach much importance, as he desires to know what foundation there may be for the continuance of the old relations with France in view of the new alliances and confederations. I asked if this delay in the arrival of the Marshal might be attributed to the Queen's desire to await some decision in Spain or elsewhere. He said it might be so; *and if the League which they propose between France, Spain, the Pope and Florence and perhaps some other Prince, comes into being he would no longer consider himself a friend of France, for he knew quite well that such a League was directed against him or some of his friends, which was the same thing.* Speaking of the marriages between France and Spain he said they were usually tragic and bloody. He said he would give every consideration to the formation of an alliance with the Princes of Germany and the States and other friends. The Marchese Spinola is going to Flanders to negotiate a peace which de Refuges has not ventured to suggest as he knows that it is abhorred, upon the condition of allowing a Catholic church in each of the chief towns; the Queen and Villeroy sent him orders not to move further in the matter.

His Majesty went on to talk of Vorstius and said he was certain he was supported by Spain and perhaps by the Jesuits in particular, in order that they might be able to urge that if a sect so iniquitous and not merely heretical but actually infidel, were tolerated by the Dutch, there was all the more reason for admitting the Catholics. He remarked that he had touched on this point in his discourse where he points out that Vorstius may receive support from three kinds of people, and names as the third those who are little friendly to a good understanding between the States and this Crown, the second are those who are interested in the Catholic Faith, and the first are infidels like Vorstius himself. Spain wants peace with the Dutch and is seeking it in order to ruin them by treachery as she could not do so by force. He dwelt on the slippery (*untuosa*) truce concluded with them by his Catholic Majesty under the pressure of weakness. He told me that one day talking in that very room to the Archduke's Ambassador, he had asked why his Master and his Catholic Majesty as well had desired so unfavourable a truce and the Ambassador replied that this was the only alternative, as they had found war to be fruitless and so an accord was the better policy; there would always be at any rate the gain in time and they could take up arms later, and then seeing that he had gone too far he added that he was not speaking as Ambassador but as

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a private individual expressing his own private views. *The King, on the Flemish Ambassador's departure, at once told the Dutch Ambassador all that had taken place.*

As regards the Imperial Election, the Elector of Cologne will not have a vote as he succeeded after the death of the Emperor and therefore lacks the Imperial confirmation, without which he cannot take part in the voting. Thus the number of Electors being five the voting cannot be equal, and so Mathias cannot exercise his vote, which is available only in the case of a parity of votes. All the same Mathias is far ahead, though his life may not be a long one. I told his Majesty that at Calais there was a Secretary of Florence who, as rumour ran, was coming to negotiate for a marriage between the Prince and one of the sisters of the Grand Duke, with offers of a very large dower. His Majesty appeared to be unaware that the Secretary was at Calais; he added that the resident Secretary (Lotti) had, in fact, spoken to him about such a match, but had not made it clear that he was charged to do so.

His Majesty renewed his protestations of regard for the Republic, and your Excellencies may count on his support, for he holds your interests and his own to be identical.

As I was waiting in the antechamber one of the King's most intimate told me that de Bouillon's delay was displeasing; and that if the League of the Pope, France, Spain and Florence advanced further it would be necessary to think about it. At de Bouillon's arrival, which is eagerly looked for, the point will be cleared up, for he will come well informed.

London, 30th of March, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

March 31. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

474. To the Ambassador in France.

Orders to find out the truth of the rumour about an offensive and defensive alliance between the Pope, France, Spain, and Tuscany.

The same to the Ambassador in England.

Ayes 129.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

March 31. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

475. To the Ambassador in Rome.

The news about the rumoured league between the Pope, France, Spain and Tuscany is so important that you are to continue to find out and report to us all you can about it.

Ayes 138.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

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March 31.
Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Florence, Venetian Archives.

476. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

It is conjectured that great negotiations are afoot for the marriage of one of these Princesses in England. A courier has been sent to his Highness' Agent in England. They say that the King is thinking of the widow of the Transilvanian, sister of the late Queen, and of her Serenity the Archduchess. This would not be displeasing here if there is no chance of the match for one of these Princesses.

Florence, 31st March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 1.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

477. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Rumour that Wotton is on his way here.

Turin, 1st April, 1612.

April 2.
Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

478. Girolamo Soranzo, Venetian Ambassador in Germany, to the Doge and Senate.

Rumours that the King of Spain may very likely marry the Princess of England.

Prague, 2nd April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 3.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

479. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France to the Doge and Senate.

An attempt has been made to sow seeds of suspicion in the mind of the Queen about the Duc de Bouillon; certain letters from England are shown in which it is said that the Duke is eagerly awaited. It is urged that owing to uniformity of religion, the Duke's journey into that country may be perilous, for it is known that since the conclusion of these alliances the Huguenots of France have turned their eyes to the King of England, from whose valour they expect much, but on the other hand the King's pacific intentions are well known.

Casaubon's reply to the Cardinal du Perron has been issued from England.

Paris, 3rd April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 5.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

480. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

In many parts of Germany they are holding special Diets in order to settle what is to be proposed at the Imperial Diet as regards reform of the Imperial Authority, and also as regards the claims of various Princes and Free Cities, proposals to which the New Emperor will be asked to swear. As I explained in my previous

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despatches the Protestant Electors are resolved on these reforms before coming to an Election; they hope that the Ecclesiastical Electors will adhere, as it is a question of their authority and the dignity of the Empire. Now that the Elector of Mainz has not only examined the Imperial Chancery, but even endeavoured to remove it from Prague to some other city, these hopes have become certainties.

Here, although Salisbury's ill-health delays all affairs, they have discussed the question of sending an Ambassador to the Imperial Diet. The question was easily resolved in the negative; the precedents of other times, and especially the action of Queen Elizabeth, had great weight. Those who send Ambassadors are, in a certain sense, dependent on the Empire. Such a position is repugnant to these Kingdoms which have never had any relations with the Imperial Crown. On this point a person of importance spoke to me at great length, declaring that no other great Sovreign can affirm this with such fulness of truth as this Crown. All the same they do not omit to consider what may be of service to their Confederates. The Federated Princes have sent the Count of Schomberg as their Envoy to the United Provinces. My last letters from the Hague inform me that he has had two audiences. His mission turns upon three points, first, to give an account of the position of the Confederates and their resolutions as to the levies of troops and their procedure during the interregnum, also as to their demands before the Election can take place; secondly, he begs them to hold their succours ready as the moment may not be far off when they may be required, and there is no method of treating more effacious than when fully armed; thirdly, he specially recommends the interests of the Elector of Brandenburg, who seems to be making great advances. Schomberg was received by the States and by Prince Maurice not merely with honour but with every mark of confidence, as he had already been in the service of the States, and been made Colonel of a regiment under Juliers; at present he is Governor of the Palatine and General of Artillery. He did not omit to exhort the States to maintain their religion pure—referring to the affair of Vorstius. He received a favourable answer on all points. He was to leave immediately for Brussels, where he will find the Ambassador of Wirtemberg. The Archduke Albert has been ill lately. In Cologne there are serious discords fomented by the Jesuits. This causes disgust among the Princes "Possessioners" and all other neighbours and so that city runs the risk of being lost through internal and external discords.

The Duke of Neuberg has reached Cleves; up to now the brother of Brandenburg has been alone in command of those territories which desire to know who is to be their Prince. The Ambassadors of Sweden and Denmark have been to the Dutch, both of them seeking permission to raise levies. They had for answer that the States were friends to both Sovreigns, and therefore could not in any way feed the war. There was some talk of an accord, but nothing definite. In agreement with the Federated Princes of Germany the Dutch have appointed Ambassadors for this purpose and they must by now be on their way. The Princes have also

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sent an Embassy to beg both Kings to lay down their arms. The King besides making an appeal in the same sense to the Danish Ambassador has also written vigorously to the King of Denmark; and there is hope of some good result.

On Saturday a courier arrived from Spain with despatches from the English Ambassador. He sends word that Don Pedro de Zuñiga—appointed Ambassador to this Court—is on the point of departure. He is to announce the conclusion of the Franco-Spanish matches. He will also excuse the errors committed in the recent negotiations here, throwing the whole blame on the resident Ambassador. He will endeavour by every method to pacify the King by making the widest offers. As regards the affairs of the merchants he also brings ample powers, and will give such promises as will satisfy the King. The King of Spain is well aware how easily his Majesty can hinder the Imperial Election, cause trouble in Germany, and by his mere tacit consent to his subjects, harass the Spanish coasts. (*Viene benissimo conosciuto dal Rè di Spagna quanto facilmente possi sua Maestà impedir electione d'Imperatore, turbare in Germania, et con una sola et tacita permissione a' sudditi, anco le marine di Spagna medessima.*)* In France, too, the Queen and her advisers are well aware of his Majesty's authority with the Huguenots and with the whole house of Guise, so that he could easily disturb the peace of that kingdom by his mere words alone. On this account both those Crowns, acting together, are sending complimentary missions to his Majesty, nominally to announce the conclusion of the matches, but really to remove all suspicion, and to guarantee security, in short to employ every art to quiet the King and to avoid those rubs which it is easily foreseen might arise. It is now known that de Bouillon's delay is due to the Queen of France's desire to await the decision of Spain. Now there is no doubt but that the Marshal is on the road, and the French Ambassador makes out that he must have left Paris the day before yesterday. On the arrival of these Ambassadors I will endeavour to discover the substance of their missions.

The instructions with which the Marchese Spinola has left Spain are two-fold; conclusion of peace with the Dutch, and an Extraordinary Mission, afterwards into Germany. As to the peace the Dutch display a unanimous resolve not to consent to it on the condition that a Catholic Church is to be opened in each of the chief cities, nor indeed with any conceivable modification of the terms of the truce, and so the instructions given to Spinola on this point are considered quite useless. As to his mission to Germany, it seems a grave matter to leave Flanders without his presence now that they are arming on all sides; all the same the Spanish Ambassador confirmed the information. General Cecil, after delaying as long as he could, left for Holland to-day. Several other officers, who were on leave, will also have returned.

London, 5th April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

* Corbett. "The English in the Mediterranean." Longmans, 1904. Vol. 1, *passim*.

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April 5.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

481. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet, and the Doge congratulated him on the recovery of the Earl of Salisbury; the Ambassador replied that in truth the Earl had been very ill, to the great grief of the King.

The Ambassador went on to say that he had come that morning on account of certain hinderances which were placed in the way of British sailors trading in the Venetian State. To remove these would prove of service to trade. In the year 1444 an order was issued that British ships were to pick up a pilot in Istria, paying a fixed sum for being piloted into Venice, except in case of a storm. Of this law no complaint is made, as it is framed with a view to the safety of the shipping. In the year 1607 another order was issued by which British ships were obliged to pay the pilot whether they took him or not. This order is distasteful and rather severe, for there seems to be no reason why a pilot should be paid for if not taken. Finally the Judges of the *Cataver* and the *Savii agli Ordini** have issued orders that British ships must go to Istria to pick up a pilot, bad weather or not; all who fail to do so are libable to a fine of sixty ducats. This order is very inconvenient for our sailors; for whereas it is very right that when they take a pilot on board he should be paid *quia dignus est operarius mercede sua*, so it seems just that they should not have to pay for a pilot when they have not employed one, nor is it fair that they should be forced to go to Istria in the teeth of a north-easter; and the sailors assure me on oath that if they wish to go to Istria they sometimes have to lose as much time as it has taken them to come from London.

Besides this, if these orders are to hold good the sailors are exposed to the inconveniences of informers. Sometimes they are forced to wait whole months. I need not dwell at length on this point, to impress on your Serenity the loss which our men and ships suffer, nor to beg you to make suitable provision, for I am aware of your great prudence and certain of your benignity, which you always show towards all his Majesty's affairs and towards myself, which is displayed in the favours I have received, and especially in the recent orders to your officers. I therefore confine myself to commending to your consideration the case of our sailors.

The Doge replied that these regulations were of long standing and always in force for the good of the service and the convenience of the ships themselves, and if they were sometimes harshly enforced that might be due to some individual interests of some special officer. But as the government has no information on the point in question such information will be called for, as they always desire to gratify his Lordship wherever possible, and an answer will be returned, such as is suitable. The government is well aware that British sailors have no need of pilots to enter the port of Venice. The Ambassador may rest assured that the subjects and interests of his Majesty are always esteemed like those of Venice herself.

The Ambassador returned thanks, and then went on to say that he had to lodge a complaint, namely that his last despatches from his Court were all cut about and mishandled by the health officers. These despatches did not deserve such treatment, for they brought

* The Revenue Collectors and the Ministry of Marine.

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good news, not only that Lord Salisbury was in good health likewise his Majesty and all the Court, but that London was free from the Plague; and therefore as the cause for this treatment of the despatches had ceased the effect ought also to cease, and the despatches should be allowed free entry.

The Doge replied that in the matter of health, which was so important, it was impossible that the Sanitary Officers should omit the necessary precautions, not by opening or mishandling post packets, especially those of Ambassadors, but to see whether they contained thread or silk or other stuff, as sometimes happened. It is, however, true that it is the custom, and indeed, the intention of the Government, that in the case of the Embassies a Secretary or some one of the household should be present at the operation so as to make sure that nothing was done but what was required in the interests of the Board of Health. This is the custom adopted towards the French and other Ambassadors when their despatches come from suspected districts. We regret the incident, which may be merely due to the carelessness of the officer. We will send for the Sanitary Officers and warn them to proceed with due care. The Ambassador replied that in truth hitherto he had been treated in this matter with all regard, and that the present incident might be excused, perhaps on the ground that the packet was not addressed to the Ambassador but to a merchant in the City of Venice; but as the Plague had now ceased in London the Ambassador would be glad if his letters were allowed to reach him direct without this delay.

The Doge enquired what good news the Ambassador had of the King of Denmark, and said that he did not believe the rumour of his death. The Ambassador said he had news from England and Holland from which it was clear that that rumour had no foundation.

[*Italian.*]

April 6. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

482. Simon Contarini and Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassadors at Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

Having news that a large number of Barbary *bertons* and other pirates were out in the Archipelago, Contarini thought it the safest plan to give up his intention of sailing on board the ship "Pigna" in company with the *berton* "Colombo;" they had a cargo to the value of three hundred thousand ducats. It was resolved to find some vessel to sail with them, and with the approval of the Council of Twelve, an English *berton* called the "Royal Exchange," which was very well manned and armed, was hired for two thousand dollars to accompany the two ships to Corfu. Her captain was Thomas Rainsbrough, and the money was to be paid him at the completion of his bargain. All precautions were taken that the Englishman should do his duty. The English Ambassador was asked to pass his word for the good service of the captain, who was also called upon to furnish full and adequate security.

They sailed yesterday morning after having their arms and munitions inspected. It was thought better to let them go than to

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keep them waiting on here for months to the damage of their cargo. A copy of the contract with the English captain has been sent to the *Cinque Savii sopra la Mercantia.*

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 6th April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 6. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

483. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday evening arrived Chioli, Secretary to the Grand Duke. He seems disposed to visit no one till he has seen the King, but I know that in company of the Secretary Resident (Lotti) he has been several times to the house of General Cecil, who, I am told, is the person entrusted with the negotiations for a match between the Prince and a sister of the Grand Duke, the second. I have not yet found out what the Secretaries' instructions are; all I know is that General Cecil has delayed his departure for Holland on account of these negotiations, about which and about Chioli's mission he has several times seen Lord Salisbury. Twice I have had long talks *with the Prince's Chamberlain** from whom I have gathered various particulars of the negotiations from the beginning down to the present time, and I will briefly rehearse them to your Serenity. The Grand Duke Ferdinand opened negotiations with the King while he was still in Scotland, with a view to giving one of his daughters to the Prince, whom he foresaw as heir to this Crown. The proposal pleased the King and in a few words the dower and all the more essential points were settled. His Majesty then reported the whole matter to Queen Elizabeth in England, she approved the King's intention and made herself the intermediary for the conclusion of the affair, making use in this matter of my informant; but just at that crisis the Queen was attacked by the illness that killed her. The King sent a gentleman† into Italy to announce his succession to these kingdoms; this gentleman was at the Grand Duke's Court but said not a word about the match, as the King under change of fortune had changed his plans, and therefore gave his Envoy no instructions or orders. The Grand Duke understood this and was disgusted, but as it suited him to conceal this, he wrote to his Majesty recalling to him the negotiations in the past, negotiations which were all but concluded. This was of no avail, and so matters rested in suspense or rather in rupture. Later on the Dowager Grand Duchess began again to throw out some hints to Sir Robert Dudley who calls himself Earl of Warwick; the offers were large, and all has been carried on by means of letters to the *Prince's Chamberlain*, to whom promises have not been wanting if he would dispose the Prince to the match; recently, seeing that all chances of a Spanish match are at an end, the Secretary has formally opened negotiations. (*Il Gran Duca Ferdinando fece trattar con il Rè fin quando era in Scotia*

* Sir Thomas Chaloner; his son was well received at the Tuscan Court. *See* Birch "Life of Prince Henry," pp. 218-322. "It is strange how they make their court here to Sir Thomas Chaloner's son, but yet it is not strange, for they build upon his father for a chief foundation of this match."

† Sir Anthony Standen.

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di dar una sua figlia al Principe prevedendolo successore di questa Corona; piacque a sua Maestà la propositione et in poche parole restò accordato la dote et tutti i punti più essentiali. Mandò la Maestà sua a dar conto di tutto ciò alla Regina Elisabetta d' Inghilterra che aprobò la inclinatione del Rè et entrò di mezzo per dar l'ultima mano al negotio servendosi della stessa persona che m'ha conferito tutto ciò. Ma in quei giorni fu la Regina sopragiunta da indispositione che la lerò di vita. Havendo poi il Rè spedito in Italia un Caraliero a dar conto della sua assuntione a questi Regni, fu anco al Gran Duca, al quale non mosse parola del matrimonio perchè il Rè mentre mutò fortuna mutò anco pensiero, et però non le diede alcuna istruttione o ordine, il che scoperto dal Gran Duca con qualche suò disgusto, quale giovandole di dissimulare, con lettere recordò a sua Maestà la negotiatione passata et quasi del tutto conclusa, ma fu senza frutto. Così resto per all—ora sospesa anzi, rotta ogni trattatione. Poi si è ritornato gia qualche tempo a gettar qualche parola dalla Gran Duchessa madre con il mezo di un Caralier Dudle, che si fa chimare Conte di Veruick con molte offerte et il tutto è passato con mezo di lettere al Ciamberlano del Prencipe al quale non sono mancate promesse perchè disponga il Prencipe. Et ultimamente perchè si vide perduta ogni speranza dell' Infanta di Spagna, il Secretario ha introdotto formatamente le sue trattationi.) My informant continued, pointing out that the Prince might have had half the dower down; that negotiations for matches between other Princes of Wales and Portugal, Aragon and various countries had taken place, and it was usual for the King to send an Embassy apart from the Prince; but his Highness cares little for dowries, and in conversation a short time ago had said he did not desire to be either bought or sold. My informant has not discovered what message the Secretary Chioli brought nor yet what General Cecil said to the Earl of Salisbury.

The day after I despatched my last the Prince ran a match with marvellous grace. The Duke of Lennox, Lord Hay and other gentlemen of the Court when honouring this house informed me that his Highness would be glad if I could be present. I accepted, and was received by the Princess, and at the close of the joust I was welcomed by the Prince, and spent the whole day in waiting on their Highnesses. The morning of the day before yesterday, Ascension Day, I kissed hands and paid the proper compliments. His Majesty expressed his gratification, and as there was to be a joust that day among the gentlemen of the Court he made me dine with them so that I might see it if I wished; and thus I have received a favour not common to any other Ambassador. To-day I have had audience of the Prince, upon whom I waited after their Majesties; this is my duty in your Excellencies' service not merely with a view to the present but also to the future, as I promise much from his Highness in due course. I assured him of your affection, and he declared that he desired to live always in union with the Serene Republic. I expressed myself in similar terms to the Duke of York; and certainly it would be impossible to find a better disposition or a greater determination to stand with your Serenity than exists in this Royal House.

The day before yesterday the nephew of the Flemish Ambassador, who shares in all negotiations, came to see me, and talking of

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Archduke Albert's pretensions to the Imperial throne, he remarked that his Highness was aware that the Electors are just and are bound by oath, and yet he continues in his claims notwithstanding the representations of King Mathias and the efforts of the Spanish to make him desist and leave the house of Hapsburg united to the exclusion of any other candidate. They had hoped to please both King and Archduke by the election of the King of the Romans, but there are insuperable difficulties and Mathias himself does not wish it. All Spanish efforts are at present directed to maintaining the Imperial dignity in their own house; they supply money and think of raising troops; they employ all their arts and even propose to send Spinola into Germany, removing him from his command in Flanders, while the United Provinces are augmenting their forces and the whole neighbouring country is arming. There is news that the Elector of Treves is not only indisposed but is in danger of his life. Nothing certain can be said about the Elector of Saxony although he appears to be leaning towards Spain, but when it comes to acting the Protestants hope his conduct will be different. Brandenburg and the Palatine continue to be closely allied. In Flanders there is a great dearth of money, and if it ever should be necessary to place the army in the field it would mutiny to a certainty. On this ground too his Catholic Majesty desires peace with Holland, while the Dutch who know the state of the case abhor the idea and will not speak of it. I repeat this though I have frequently reported it, for it is a point of essential importance. The smallest disturbance in Germany would cause the greatest trouble to the House of Austria. The Protestants are very vigorous.

London, 6th April, 1612.

[*Italian*; *the part in italics deciphered.*]

April 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

484. Cristoforo Valier and Simon Contarini, Venetian Ambassadors in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Nuncio of the United Provinces (Stati di Fiandra) continues his negotiations. He is strongly opposed by the Capudan Pasha, and openly and vigorously attacked by the French Ambassador. The issue is very uncertain, though the Nuncio does not fail to employ presents.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 7th April, 1612.

[*Italian*; *deciphered.*]

April 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

485. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The Catholic Ambassador resident in England has sent news that the conclusion of the Franco-Spanish matches *has caused no small displeasure to his Majesty both because negotiations had been on foot for an alliance with the Prince of Wales and because he is suspicious about the union of the two Crowns.* The King of Spain has resolved to send as an Ambassador Extraordinary, Don Pedro de Zuñiga, a person who understands the affairs of England, thanks to experience acquired in the course of an Embassy

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there. *His commission is to remove from the King's mind the suspicion about these matches. There are not wanting those who say that Don Pedro is also commissioned to foster the project of marriage between his Catholic Majesty and the Princess.* Don Pedro's departure is hastened and he will leave in eight days. He has received from the King twenty thousand crowns, the title of Marquis of Flores d'Avila and two thousand crowns of income for three lives.

Madrid, 7th April, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

April 7. Senato, Terra, Venetian Archives.

486. Copyright for thirty years to the Brothers Piero and Giambattista Combi, in the Compendium of the Lives of the Saints, by Father Lodovico Zacconi, of the Order of St. Augustine, and the notes of David Colville, Scot, entitled *Calepinus parvus.*

Ayes 120.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 3.

[*Italian.*]

April 8. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

487. Gregorio Barbarigo, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Wotton arrived at Orleans and was delayed there by slight indisposition.

Turin, 8th April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 11. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

488. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Domenego Gannazeri, who has been in Barbary to ransom Venetian slaves, makes the accompanying report.

Florence, 11th April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

489. Armament in the Kingdom of Tunis, Algiers and Tripoli.

Tunis, at Biserta, six galleys, three belonging to Ossman Bey. All bench galleys, 3 of 26 and 3 of 25. Five men to a bench. In the galley-way a petard gun of 60 lbs. Fighting men 140; at the oar 260.

12 frigates, 3 belong to Suliman, 3 to Jussuf and six to private individuals; they are of 15, 12 and 10 benches, manned by Moors. Galleons 4, 2 belong to Jussuf, 1 to Suliman and 1 to Ward, an English renegade, they carry 30 iron guns, 250 and 300 men, armed with harquebusses, bows and arrows. Gunners, and artificial fire. They are English, Dutch and slaves of other nationalities.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
April 17.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

490. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

An account of the festivities in Paris for the publication of the Franco-Spanish matches. The English Ambassador would not assist either publicly or privately at the solemnities. This has caused much comment. A short time before he had blazed up to the Queen because she had refused the intercession of his Master on behalf of some Scottish soldiers of the Guard who had been dismissed by the Captain and had sought the King's protection. Everyone considers it a monstrous thing that the King's personal body guard should have had the audacity to appeal to another Sovreign, and had it not been for the present juncture of affairs, they would have been severely punished, only they do not wish to add to the King's annoyance. After the festival the Duke de Bouillon leaves for England; he has been delayed for causes which I will explain in my next despatch.

Paris, 17 April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 19.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

491. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of the States had despatches from his Masters dated the 24th and 28th, signed by Barneveldt. In the first they inform him that they had heard Vorstius in the General Diet, and then decided that he was to be confined for a year in a small town in Holland, and in the meantime to clear himself better from the charges brought against him within three months' time. All this is sent to the Ambassador for his information, not to be communicated to the King except in circumstance that he may consider imperative.

The Danish Ambassador has received orders from his Master to return home after taking sufficient steps for the embarking of the troops, as he has already done, and he is off. It is thought that the King, seeing that he is conjured from many sides to make peace, and knowing that the confederate Princes were about to send an Embassay with that intention, has concluded that his best course is to recall his Ambassador.

I have news from Heidelberg that the Margrave of Anspach and the Prince of Anhault are expected there; that the Duke of Wirtemberg and the Margrave of Baden have proposed an accommodation between Neuburg and Deuxponts with a view to preventing their disagreement from hampering the action of the Protestant Princes during the interregnum. The Palatine is in treaty to settle with the Duke of Saxony as regards the Imperial Chamber of Spyers, which is equally under the protection of both during the Vicariate. The Elector of Saxony has convoked his States at Torgau. The Imperial Cities will hold their Assembly immediately after the Assembly of Frankfort. The Elector of Brandenburg is resolved to come to an accord with Neuburg over all that concerns Juliers; he has made up his mind to treat directly without the intervention of any one. My last letters from the Hague announce the departure

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of the English Ambassador on the 29th for Düsseldorf, the Ambassadors of the States are going too, and a Diet will immediately be convened at Wesel, a town of Cleves on the German confines, where they will meet Envoys from the Federated Princes. They will stipulate the confederation under the auspices of the King of England, including Denmark and the States. His Majesty desires that the treaty should admit of the offensive; the larger part of the Princes agree, and so will some few who at present seem doubtful. This union will be a great check on the House of Austria, and is very distasteful to the Spanish above all others. On the 30th Prince Maurice left for the General Assembly of the State of Guelders, and to be present at the baptism of the son of Ernest of Nassau at Arnheim, where there will be present Ambassadors from Denmark and Germany and General Cecil in the name of the Prince of Wales. The Count of Schomberg, the Ambassador of the Protestant Princes in Holland, left for Brussels. He did not receive the reply he hoped for from the Archduke. It is confirmed from various quarters of Germany that the Archduke Albert continues his pretensions in the Imperial Election, and that King Mathias' councillors are afraid of him in spite of the Archduke's own declarations and the opposition of Spain. Ambassadors expected in England from the Palatine, the Count of Hanau (*Anò*), and from the Confederated Princes and Cities. The former will demand the hand of the Princess for the Elector, the latter will report all the resolutions taken at the Diet. There is news that Bouillon has reached Calais; the royal carriages have been sent to meet him, and in a few days he will be here. If the Count of Hanau is still here they will jointly deal with the marriage question; they are brothers-in-law and equally interested in the Palatine, who is born of a sister of their wives. Refuges, the French Ambassador in Holland, has announced that he will speedily return; but it is well known that he is in relations with de Bouillon, and will not leave until he sees how far de Bouillon's mission has given satisfaction to the King.

The Earl of Salisbury continues ill, and the King, contrary to his wont, is occupied with affairs of State. The Franco-Spanish matches are distasteful to this Crown, to the United Provinces and to the German Federates, and the result is that they are drawing closer together in their Union, with such energy and spirit that it will not serve merely for defence but for offence as well. If peace with Sweden is effected as all Protestants endeavour, the King, if he desires it, will certainly be enrolled among the Confederates.

London, 19th April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 19. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

492. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Parliament which was to have met at the end of next month, will not be summoned till September or a little sooner, owing to the indisposition of the Earl, without whom the King will decide nothing of moment, and the Resident and Chioli, the Florentine

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Secretary, have kissed the King's hand. They then saw the Earl of Salisbury and after that they sent despatches to the Grand Duke. As far as I have been able to discover they spoke in general terms, declaring that if nobility of blood, beauty of person, perfection of conduct and vast wealth are qualities sufficient to justify the Prince's marriage, then all of them are to be found in abundance in the second sister of the Grand Duke. They then hinted that the case of the Duke of Savoy and of some others ought to induce the Grand Duke to walk with caution, but if the proposal found favour with his Majesty, his Highness would instantly send an Ambassador, and as to dower the Grand Duke could not find a better investment for some part of that vast sum which he has laid by. For answer they had civil words, *and they make large bids for the success of their mission, as I have learned from persons whom they considered useful.* These Secretaries have visited me, and the Resident did not conceal from me that he was to leave for Florence about this business and that he hoped to return in a different capacity, in fact he concealed no point in his management of the affair. He was to have left yesterday, Wednesday, at four in the afternoon and to take the post, but despatches arrived from the Grand Duke which caused him to delay, nor will he leave till after to-morrow.

The Prince's Chamberlain, who three days ago honoured this house, told me that that day the Prince had sent out the three ships that were to make sure of the short route to the East Indies; two of them, when they have pushed far enough to be certain of the route, will continue their voyage, and will send back the third, which is expected here in five months' time.

The Chamberlain enlarged on the great hopes that are formed here. He added that three days ago they had received in letters from Spain the assurance that some years ago a ship of Seville discovered the same route, but that the late King Philip, seeing that it was long and also damaging to his interests, kept it concealed; he concluded by saying that if it succeeds, of which there can be no doubt, it would deal a mortal blow to the Spanish. And in sooth of that there is no doubt. The greatness of the gain induces all these merchants to join the Company which will trade in those parts only; for China, Japan, Great Tartary, the larger Java and many other kingdoms and islands are very rich in gold and silver and all manner of spices, and there the cloths and other merchandize of this kingdom will be in high esteem.

In Holland they have no news as yet that their Ambassador has reached Constantinople, though he is near. I have already informed your Excellencies that the mission of this Ambassador was based on a letter from Halil Pasha addressed to Count Maurice and the States; I now enclose this letter in copy and translated, just as it was sent me by the person who usually supplies me with most of the information I send you. The object of this Embassy must be well known to my correspondent, nor will I ever keep back aught that may be of moment to your Serenity. It is to be feared that as the Dutch have begun to trade in almost all parts of the Mediterranean they will absorb all the traffic, as they are content with very moderate gains, their ships are light and do not cost half what English ships cost; owing to their lightness and the skill of their crews, they

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can sail with half the number of hands, and so though they last a little shorter time still they can offer freights at half the price of an English ship—I do not mention those of any other part, as owing to an infinity of imperfections there can be no sort of comparison, as I have already pointed out and will not now uselessly repeat.* (*Si può temere che havendo gia li detti Stati cominciato a negotiare in quasi tutti liluochi del Mediterraneo, siano per tirare tutto il negotio a se, perchè si contentano di pochissimo guadagno, loro raselli sono leggieri, et non costano la metà che questi d'Inghilterra, per l'agilità loro et perfectione de marinari navigano anco con la metà della gente, onde seben sono di alquanto minor durata possono per questi rispetti nollegiare per la metà meno di questi, che di quelli d'altre parti non parlo perchè non possono compararsi per infinite imperfectioni loro, come ho scritto altre volte, et taccio per non replicare inutilmente lostesso.*)

The Ragusan merchants have recently despatched two ships with cargoes of kerseys, lead and other goods. They are to go straight to Ragusa and there discharge, going on afterwards with a small remnant to Venice, while the return cargo is being got ready at Ragusa. On kerseys the usual profit is eighteen per cent., including insurance and every other charge, and so I do not understand why Venetian trade with this kingdom which used to be so flourishing and has been so profitable should now be abandoned and quite extinct; out of the many Venetian houses that there used to be in this City not one exists. Those ships that enter the Adriatic touch at the leeward ports which suit their cargo, even those nearest to Venice, they put in if it suits or stand off if it suits, and so the public as well as the private individual is deprived of that commodity which used to be the speciality of your Serenity and your Excellencies. If the new passage to the East Indies be verified as is hoped, it is certain that the English trade with the Mediterranean will be for the most part abandoned, and so if it be not entirely absorbed by the Dutch, it is to be hoped that there will be the Venetian ships to take a part in it to the advantage of the Venetian market. (*Nelle carisee il guadagno suol 'esser d'ordinario intorno* 18 *per cento, comprese sicurtà ed ogn' altra spesa, onde non so vedere perchè il comercio di Venetia con questo Regno, che soleva esser cosi florido, et è state cosi utile, hora resti abbandonato et del tutto estinto; non vi essendo alcuna casa de' Venetiani di tante che vi solevano esser in questa Città. Quelli che passano in Golfo toccano secondo le merci che portano quei porti sottovento che gli torna meglio anco i più contigui a Venetia, ove passano quando gli torna bene astengono quando gli è commodo, cosi il publico come il particolare resta privo di quell' utile che soleva esser proprio della Serenità Vostra et delle Signorie Vostre Eccellentissime; se il nuovo passaggio nell' Indie orientali accerterà come si spera, è certo che il comercio d' Inglesi con il Mediterraneo resterà in gran parte abbandonato, onde quando da fiaminghi non resti intieramente intrapreso si potrà sperare ne siano le navi et altri raselli Venetiani a parte con augmento et utile di quella Piazza.*)

* On this point *see* Corbett, op. cit. Vol. 1.

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The pirates, who at present with thirty ships are infesting the ocean sea-board of Spain and the Straits of Gibraltar, have refused to accept the pardon offered them by the King. They say that in the present state of peace they could not maintain themselves in England; and so they continue to increase in strength and the damage they were doing is great, especially on that route.

The Spanish Ambassador continues in disfavour, and in very slight favour the Ambassador of France. I visited the Spanish Ambassador, who has not left his house for more than a month and who is far from well. He said that to be ill in an ill place is a double ill. He continued in a vehement strain, displaying a discontent which he could not hide, and all his household adopt a like tone. The mass, both of nobles and people, desire war; nor is there any rank of persons which conceals the satisfaction it would feel if leave were given for reprisals on Spain as in the time of the late Queen. More than one person of importance has remarked to me that this Kingdom, thanks to its position, is rich and flourishing in time of war; this they prove by citing examples out of the past, and they declare that things cannot go on as they are, for in a few years the country will be impoverished. These rumours, which are very open, reach the ears of the Spanish Ambassador, who reports them again and again to the King, accompanied by vigorous despatches which give the Council of Spain much to consider.

Every letter I receive from Holland confirms the view that the United Provinces do not desire peace, nay, there are many who are dissatisfied with the truce, and very likely if they received encouragement from some quarter they would make themselves heard; for they are paying the maintenance of twenty-two thousand foot besides the cavalry and the navy, and therefore with a very small increase in their forces they could carry on the war, which Maurice above all others earnestly desires. All this which is quite well known to his Catholic Majesty causes him to desire to convert the truce into a peace, and to remove or at least diminish the ill-humour of the King of England. As far as the States are concerned, as yet every effort has failed and will fail unless he makes up his mind to yield absolutely and entirely. As regards the King of England I don't see what he can propose that would be credited or would give satisfaction.

London, 19th April, 1612.

[*Italian*; *the part in italics deciphered.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

493. Halil Pasha to Count Maurice and the States of Holland.

Has received letters from Count Maurice suggesting sending representatives of the Dutch to the Porte.

Ambassador came overland, *viâ* Poland.

Halil promises to support the liberation of slaves in Barbary.

[*Italian.*]

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March 20.*
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

494. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marshal de Bouillon is getting ready for his journey to England, consultations as to his instructions take place every day. The English Ambassador in an audience of the Queen said that as conditions had now changed it would be well to make some declaration on the subject of the last confederation stipulated between these two Crowns, and on their joint obligation for the observance of the Flemish truce. In this he used the identical phrases employed by D'Aerssens in order to show that they came from a common source and a community of ideas. He added that the Queen's last act gave the friends of France a just reason for assuring themselves of her attitude. The Queen replied that it was for this precisely that she was sending the Duc de Bouillon to England with such instructions as would pacify the King, for whom she professed the highest regard. It is hoped that if de Bouillon can pacify the King, the other Princes who depend on him will keep quiet. The Ambassador told me that Villeroy did all he could to induce him to believe that there was no other bond between France and Spain save that of relationship; all the same he and others hold a different opinion, namely, that there is at least a defensive alliance which includes the Pope and the Grand Duke. The Ambassador of the States fears still worse, and that all Spanish designs are directed against the Dutch. M. de Refuges has written to Villeroy complaining bitterly that he was not informed of the conclusion of the matches, consequently at the very moment that they were being published in France, he, acting on his original instructions, was affirming that they would never take place. Villeroy is anxious at seeing that these matches which were intended to secure quiet are producing quite opposite results, and he wishes to extirpate these suspicions before they take deeper root. Therefore he urges the departure of de Bouillon, whom the Queen is keeping back as she hopes by his means to induce the Princes of the blood to assist at the wedding festivals.

Paris, 20th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

March 20.*
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

495. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Richer's book has finally been censured and condemned by a congregation of Bishops with the assistance of Cardinal du Perron. There was some difficulty about the form of the censure, but that was overcome. Parliament and the Sorbonne protest, but in vain.

Paris, 20th March, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 21.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

496. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

His Highness gave me some news about the festivities in Paris, which had been brought to him by Vibò, Secretary to M. de Jacob.

* That is the date given, but the despatches come in the month of April.

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All the Ambassadors were invited, and to each his place was assigned. Spain on the King's left, very close; the Nuncio on the King's right, but further off. Next to Spain England, and next to England the Flemish Ambassador, then the Dutch Ambassador. On the opposite side the Venetian Ambassador came next to the Nuncio, and then the Savoyard. The Florentine was not given a place along with the other Envoys so as to avoid a struggle about precedence, but he was assigned a place close to the King where he stood on foot. The English Ambassador would not consent to being placed after Spain. He declared that it was perfectly clear and could be demonstrated by documents, that the Kingdom of England had always taken precedence of the Kings of Castile and also of his Catholic Majesty; still less, he declared, could he yield precedence to the Nuncio, who, representing the Pope, was not recognised by England except as Bishop of Rome and Duke of the Romagna. The Queen eventually settled that each should go where he would.

Turin, 21st April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 27. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

497. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After the death of the Emperor and while the King of Denmark, governed by the ideas I have explained, was preparing to make peace with Sweden, there came letters from the King of Sweden saying that if the King of Denmark would restore Kalmar and pay an indemnity for the damage inflicted he would find the road open to a sincere and lasting friendship. This letter greatly incensed the King of Denmark, who sent the bearer back without a reply. The King of Sweden meanwhile pushed forward towards Denmark with his entire force of twelve thousand foot and two thousand four hundred horse and, on the return of his messenger, taking silence for a sign of hostility, he ordered Duke John, his brother-in-law, to invade Norway with half the army, while he with the remainder entered the Province of Blenkenside, which belongs to Denmark, where he inflicted great damage. The news was brought at once to Copenhagen, whence the King instantly despatched the Lord of Ransò with three thousand men and six hundred horse against the King of Sweden, and with a like force he himself set out to meet Duke John. The Lord of Ransò by forced marches approached the enemy and was already in advance with the cavalry when he learned from some prisoners whom he had captured that the King of Sweden was encamped on the river Are, in a neighbouring village and had no suspicion of the enemy's approach. The Lord of Ransò held a council there and then on horseback; some advised waiting for the infantry and then advancing cautiously; but he, grasping the advantage it would give to attack the enemy unarmed and in disorder, and considering that the infantry could not be long in coming up as it was only a mile behind, pushed forward and at three in the afternoon, dividing his force into three squadrons, he first of all slew the sentinels and the few

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troops on guard and attacked the main body, unarmed and in confusion, and wrought a great slaughter. The King of Sweden was in a church, dicing with his generals of foot and horse, when the news was brought him that the Danes were at hand, and soon after, that blood had begun to flow; he had no time to arm but sprang to horse and between two of his generals he rushed back to restore such order as he could; he repulsed the Lord of Ransò who had already penetrated to the royal tents, and so the Swedes gradually recovered their formation; but then the Danish infantry fully armed, in perfect order and quite fresh, arrived on the scene and the Swedes could not hold out for long; nay, having lost all hope and vigour they took to flight, leaving one thousand six hundred dead and many prisoners, among whom the general of the foot and the general of the horse. The larger part took to the river which was frozen over, but the ice, unable to bear such a weight of men and horses, broke in several places so that almost everyone went in. The King's horse, with pistols and sword—recognized by the royal arms engraved on them—were found in the river. The most sinister conjectures as to the King's fate are in circulation; he is supposed to be drowned, though nothing certain is known. Some say he fell in the battle, others think he saved himself by swimming, but that is not likely in the midst of so many massive lumps of ice with which the river was covered. The royal tents and all their contents along with nineteen standards of infantry and some of cavalry remained in the hands of the Lord Ransò.* News of this victory was sent to the King of Denmark, who had pushed on to a fortress called Golberi, where he had secret intelligences, which, however, failed him. He then pressed on with the cavalry to Vanburgh. When Duke John heard this, though at first he had shown fear in spite of his superior numbers, he now advanced with foot, horse and artillery, and barred the passage for the King, who was advised by his staff to retire and not to risk himself at such a disadvantage, as he seemed disposed to do. At this juncture Duke John came up and boldly surrounded the Danish horse who, after a brief resistance, took to flight, and only a few more than a hundred escaped aided by the fog and the approach of night. The King of Denmark, who, in the advance, was at the head of his troops, was in the rear during the retreat, and was with difficulty saved. He was followed for a long way by three men; one of them had a better horse than the King's, and came close up, whereupon, as the only remedy, he took a little pistol he had and fired, unseating his pursuer, either dead or wounded; the other two pulled up seeing that the King on his very swift charger kept drawing further and further away. The King also ran a grave risk in leaping a hedge where his horse slipped and came down on his knees, but at last all dangers were overcome, and the King came back to his own people in a place of safety.

On Friday, the 20th, a Scottish gentleman, belonging to the King's Privy Chamber, was here, and he brought all the above particulars, and the King of Sweden's letter to the King of Denmark is also here in the King's hands. On Monday one of the Danish

* This is the battle of Wildsjö.

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Royal guard was here with letters to the Danish Ambassador, but they did not come in time, as the Ambassador had already left with six ships, while ten others are ready on the coasts, and on these are embarked the larger part of the troops; the rest are in process of embarcation and of payment by the King of Denmark's Agent. He himself gave me this information, which has been confirmed by a person in the Queen's confidence.

London, 27th April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 27. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

498. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Three days ago the King had letters from his Ambassador in Paris. As I desired to know their contents, the day before yesterday I *paid a visit to a leading personage, whom I found but just come back from Court and with some letters in his hand which he had read to the King. He assured me that the news from France* is that after the Duke of Rohan returned in discontent to the country he has had the opportunity to elect another Mayor of Justice. The Queen had to employ threats and even moved four companies of infantry and cannon to besiege Rohan. Extensive movement among the Protestant party. Bouillon is employed by the Queen to procure the return of Soissons and Condé, both of whom refused to be present at the rejoicings for the Franco-Spanish marriages, nor would they sign the contracts. The fêtes were most splendid and costly; all those who are seeking pensions or governorships placed themselves at her Majesty's service; but generally in Paris and elsewhere these marriages do not meet with approval. The French Ambassador who came to visit me on Monday told me that the English Ambassador in France writes very long despatches, and complains that their contents are known in London; he is very suspicious about the matches with Spain. The Spanish Ambassador who came to see me on Tuesday, dwelt on the importance of some of the events that are taking place in France. On the arrival of part of de Bouillon's suite at Calais with his carriages, an agent of Lewkenor sent to warn him and to say that the Marshal was expected in a few hours; accordingly Lewkenor, whom it suits to be out for a long time, announced that de Bouillon himself was at Calais, and caused the ships to be sent there while he himself went down to Dover with the royal carriages. De Bouillon will be lodged and fed everywhere, and in London they are preparing the Palace of the Great Chamberlain. De Bouillon is anxiously awaited in order to see what his orders are. The Count of Hanau (*Anò*), uncle of the Count Palatine, who, as I informed you, was sent here, has arrived along with de Plessen. The King caused them to be met by Lord de Walden (Gualden). They are lodged and fed in the house that was retained for the Ambassador of Savoy.

I have several letters from the Hague. The business of the French Ambassador was not settled at the General Assembly. It is referred to the next meeting of the States. Count Maurice must be back at the Hague. The Archduke Albert goes on massing

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troops in a manner that does not suit one who endeavours to maintain the truce. On the Dutch side they are doing the same. The States have issued a proclamation affecting priests and friars who enter Holland; if it is copied and translated in time I will send it.

The Margrave of Anspach was at Heidelberg, where he may have negotiations affecting the Imperial election. As to Archduke Albert although the Spanish have promised that he shall succeed Mathias yet he will not keep quiet and aspires to election as King of the Romans, a point which the Spaniards do not wish to concede and cannot deal with just now. The Protestants are growing very strong. The Elector of Cologne will certainly not have a vote, and so if Saxony joins with the others of his creed this would be a heavy blow to the Austrian party. It is known that the Pope has written to the Duke of Bavaria exhorting him to keep united with the house of Austria at the election. Brandenburg is in secret treaty with Neuburg for an accommodation, and this will certainly be soon effected. Spain offers Saxony every help in the affair of Cleves; they assure him that the forces in Flanders and the help Mathias can give are at his disposition. The Hungarians are insisting on complete liberty of conscience; this and the threat of Turkish arms keep Mathias always in anxiety and compel him to look to himself.

London, 27th April, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

April 27. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

499. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Secretary Chioli brings letters from the Grand Duke and the Dowager Grand Duchess which he has presented to the King, the Queen, and the Earl of Salisbury, being introduced by Secretary Lotti. The letters to the Prince contain only large offers and expressions calculated to win his benevolence, and they will serve as credentials for both Secretaries. The letters to the Queen contain a little more; in them mention is made of some distant connection between the King of Denmark and the House of Lorraine, to which the Dowager Grand Duchess belongs, and also with the House of Austria, to which the reigning Grand Duchess belongs, and reference is made to other ladies married into the House of Medici; and thus the topic of matrimony is brought to the fore. The letters to the King are still more diffuse; they explicitly state in terms of the greatest reverence the desire to give the second sister of the Grand Duke as wife to the Prince of Wales, along with a very large dower, and for further details refer to the statements of the two Secretaries. What was in Lord Salisbury's letters I do not know for certain and must not conjecture; it is certain that the contents are kept a profound secret by Lord Salisbury himself. The Secretaries have made rich presents of jewels, to some favourites of the Prince; also to the Queen's ladies, and have promised to one who is powerful in the Council and with the King, a very large sum of money if the match comes off. Both Chioli and Lotti spoke to the King and to Lord Salisbury in the terms I reported this day week. Their answer was largely favourable, and

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the King promised to reply to the essential point in the Grand Duke's letter. Lotti was, accordingly, to have left on Holy Thursday by the post; but while waiting for the King's answer to the Grand Duke, some evil offices were made to his Majesty, who received an anonymous letter telling him that one of his Council, who was named, intended to sell the Prince. This has brought about delay, confusion, and irritation. The King showed the letter to the Councillor, declaring that he held it for a malicious calumny and strove to console him. At length Lotti received the King's letter and left the day before yesterday by post for Florence. The Grand Duke's letters which Lotti received on Holy Tuesday came very opportunely and contributed to the successful issue of the royal letter. There is some hope that an ambassador may be sent who, under some excuse of visiting other places, should reach Florence. I know that this has been urged on the King by pointing out that the Grand Duke has three times sent embassies to this Court and that they have never been returned, although Tuscany is in no way inferior to Savoy, where Sir Henry Wotton at present is. If the mission is ever sent two or three months at least must elapse. The Queen hates this match; she cannot endure to hear it spoken of and does all she can to alienate the mind of the Prince, who is in fact opposed to it, nor does he conceal it but says so openly to those who have his confidence. The considerations that weigh with the King and Council are the scarcity of fit matches and the great dower that is offered; if it were not for that they would not hear it mentioned for a moment.

Last week the new order of Baronets, who are two hundred in number but who will be filled up to their complement, complained to the King that the sons of Barons take precedence. Three whole days were consumed in the endeavour to satisfy them, as the point is important, and naturally so; for the future all the sons of Baronets are to be considered knights, both now and in the future; and every Baronet will bear on his shield a bloody heart which is one of the charges in the arms of that Province in Ireland for the restoration of which each of them has paid four thousand crowns. Barons' sons keeps their precedence. (*La settimana passata il novo ordine di Cavalieri detti Baronetti; che sono ducento è saranno poi empito il numero, si son doluti al Rè perchè vogli la Maestà che li figlioli di Baroni li precedino; si son consumati tre giorni intieri in trovar modo di darle sodisfattione, premendo ciò molto, et con ragione; così nell' avvenire tutti i figlioli de Baronetti s'intenderanno Cavalieri, tanto al presente quanto in tutte la posterità, et ogni Baronetto porterà nell' armi un cor vermiglio ch'è parte dell'arme di quella Provincia in Irlanda per ristorar la quale hanno cadauno di essi pagato m. S^di, et ai figlioli de Baroni resta la precedenza.*)

London, 27th April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

April 28. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

500. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

His Highness will not take any steps till the arrival of Wotton, who can not be long now in coming, as we had news of him in Paris many days ago, where the twelve "light

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ambling geldings "* and the jewelled sword, worth thirty thousand crowns, which the King is sending as a present, have already arrived.

Turin, 28th April, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 1. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

501. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke of Bouillon left for England on the 22nd with a splendid suite. His mission is to remove any shadow of suspicion caused by the Spanish matches, and then to propose the second Princess in marriage to the Prince of Wales. He is to press this offer all the more vigorously because M. de Vucellas writes from Spain that Don Pedro de Zuñiga will make a similar proposal about the second Infanta. De Bouillon is also to sound his Majesty as to the conversion of the truce with Flanders into a peace. The Franciscan Father (Neyen) who was employed in the truce negotiations has been several times with the Queen.

Yesterday Sig. Carlo de Rossi, Ambassador Extraordinary of Mantua, left for England.

Paris, the first of May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 3. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

Expulsis Papalistis.

502. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday I received your Excellencies' despatches of March 31st, in which I am instructed to use all diligence to find out everything about the league between the Pope, Spain, France, and the Grand Duke and to report fully and clearly. I at once applied my mind to the business. A member of the Council told me that two months ago the Spanish Ambassador informed the King that one of his Catholic Majesty's most intimate advisers had declared that just as the King of England had formed a federation two years ago, so now Spain was determined to form a federation between the Pope, France, and some other Catholic Princes. It seems that these negotiations are not very far advanced as yet, and that even when concluded they would not be aimed against England, which is united with France, and considering that the Grand Duke, who is so closely connected with Spain, is also seeking a matrimonal alliance with England; besides which, Ambassadors from both sovereigns are looked for day by day to secure the continuance of good relations, and so all suspicion may vanish; though to assure himself in any case the King of England has closely allied himself to the Protestant Princes and the Dutch. I have also sounded other persons and I seem to see that no one believes that much is likely to come of this federation, and it is held in but small account anyway. This is what I have found out so far. In a short time I hope to have fuller information and to be able to tell your Excellencies all that the King may have discovered through his Ambassadors

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Chinee See Nichols, Progresses of James I., Vol. II., p. 438.

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and Agents. I can assure your Excellencies that whatever happens, you can count on the friendship of this Crown; and the Dutch Ambassador has repeatedly assured me of the same attitude on the part of his Masters, and it rests with your Excellencies to hold both this Crown and the United Provinces bound to your interests by any means which may seem desirable to your wisdom.

While the news was being sown broadcast probably by the Spaniards that the Dutch had agreed to convert the truce into a peace and had consented to the opening of a Catholic Church in each of the chief cities, the Proclamation, which I reported, has forbidden all exercise of Catholic rites, and so caused all rumours to fall to the ground and deprived the Spaniards of all hopes of peace and removed the last doubts in all other minds. The Dutch have also ordered all ecclesiastics to send in their names and quality to the Magistrates within two months; and the same is to apply to all who arrive later on. They are all to be free to stay on in their respective dwelling places or to leave and to return as they please. The youth is forbidden to frequent the Jesuit Colleges and their fathers and guardians are forbidden to supply them with money on pain of confiscation and expulsion. The prohibition of the Catholic rite was unnecessary in a country where it was already prohibited, and it is known that its principal object was to cause all the rumours of peace on the condition of allowing a Catholic Church in each great city to vanish, to cut short all negotiations, to deprive the Spaniards of every hope and to remove every suspicion from the minds of the English Sovreign and other Princes and friends to the United Provinces.

London, 3rd May, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 4. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

503. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of the United Provinces had audience of the King on the 28th of April, and informed him of the Proclamation issued by his Masters. He pointed out that this step made their intentions clear, namely, that never would they conclude peace with Spain on condition of allowing a Catholic Church in each of their large cities, nor on any other condition which could in any way limit their Sovreignty, which had been acknowledged by the King of Spain himself when he named them "Free Lords, Supreme, over whom he held no claim." The Ambassador then went on to point out that immediately after the King had ratified the League of Hall confirmed at Heidleberg, they had done the same; as to the inclusion of the word "offensive" as applied to the League they were willing to proceed pace for pace along with the King without hesitation and without raising difficulties. The King showed complete satisfaction, and although in the progress of conversation he did drop a word about Vorstius, he did so without heat, and indeed he professed that all he had done was done for the sake of the United Provinces.

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On Sunday the Count of Hanau (*Anò*)*, uncle of the Palatine, was with the King. He was very well accompanied in the royal carriages, and well received. He presented his credentials and made some formal compliments as was fitting at a first audience. The same day the French Ambassador had a very long and private audience. He announced de Bouillon's coming, said that the Queen was pleased that he would be here in time to assist at the conclusion of the match between the Princess and the Palatine. The Duke of Rohan has explained his attitude to the Queen, who, desirous of pleasing his peers, will gratify the Duke and so all will end in quiet. The Ambassador dwelt long on this point, declaring that prosperity in France was gain to his Majesty, as the interests of these two kingdoms are identical. The King replied with great kindness, as is his wont; said he would be glad to see de Bouillon, and that the match with the Palatine was agreeable to him.

On Monday the Count of Hanau saw Lord Salisbury, whom he found a little better, and next week he is to go to the baths that are one hundred and twenty miles from here. That will prolong the conclusion, which cannot be taken without his advice. The following morning the Count of Hanau was again with the King along with de Plessen, first Councillor of the Palatine, and very well informed, as he has for long managed all the Elector's affairs. They discussed the match. No other dower than the yearly allowance which it may please the King to bestow is asked for. There was also some talk about confederation and about the affairs of Germany. On the subject of the marriage the King merely listened; on the other points he dwelt at length and showed an excellent disposition. After dinner the French Ambassador visited Lord Salisbury, as did I yesterday. He assured me that the Elector was very well inclined towards the Republic. He said that Spain was entirely taken up just now with the affairs of Germany; that the Spanish Ambassador was doing all he could to secure that the Coadjutor of Cologne, who is now styled Elector, should have a vote.

The Spanish Ambassador continues here in disgrace. I hear that Don Pedro di Zuñiga has started. On Sunday the French Ambassador goes down to Gravesend to meet de Bouillon, who, they say, will be in London on Monday. The Dutch Ambassador is to go to Holland in a few days. So far I gather that M. de Plessen has orders to proceed to Holland. I am told that the Florentine Secretaries have dropped some hints, saying that if the second sister of the Grand Duke became the wife of the Prince, the question of religion could be settled with a little time; the Spanish Ambassador confirms this, but both the Prince and Queen are quite opposed.

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Ap. 23. "The Count of Hainault here, on a marriage treaty between the Princess and the Count Palatine," Bishop King to Carleton. But the person called "Anò" is the Count of Hanau. *See* Winwood, Mem. III. 357, Winwood to Trumbull. "The Count of Hannaw is now on the way towards England, assisted with two Councillors of the Palatinate, de Plessen and Dauthenes."

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Every day the King has paid long visits to Lord Salisbury; as he is to leave in a few days for the baths, they are endeavouring to come to a decision upon the more important points.

London, 4th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

504. Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Lieutenant Grand Vizir made great complaints as to the quality of the woollens and silks which were brought from Venice. He said that whereas they used to be of excellent quality, now the only good thing about them was their name. He told me to warn your Excellencies to give orders for the manufacture of better stuff, otherwise he would dismiss all vessels bringing such cargoes; nor would he allow them to discharge in Constantinople nor elsewhere. I replied that your Serenity's regulations were excellent, and that great diligence was used to prevent any but the best quality from going out; and if inferior qualities were found they were burned in public; that if poor qualities were found in Constantinople there was no reason to wonder, for the Jews introduced foreign goods from Florence and Messina through the port of Ragusa, and sold them as Venetian.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 4th May, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

May 4. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

505. Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The English and French Ambassadors and the Greek Patriarch of Alexandria inform the Venetian Ambassador that the Turks are planning an attack on Crete.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 4th May, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

May 5. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

506. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

I am told that Sir Henry Wotton will be here on Wednesday next. His suite consists of about forty persons.* It is said that on his Majesty's express orders he did not pass through Paris. His Highness has given orders that the Palace of the Marchese di Lanz is to be cleared for Wotton's reception, as the intention is to honour him extraordinarily.

Turin, 5th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Nichols, Progresses of James I., Vol. II., p. 438. Wotton's "company of note is a son of the Lord William Howard, two sons of Sir Charles Cavendish, one Yorke and Sir Robert Rich tarries for him in France." "The presents he carries are ten light ambling geldings with variety of saddles and rich furniture. There is likewise a rich sword with a hilt, pommel and chaffe of gold, set full of diamonds to the value of £16,000."

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May 5.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

507. Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador has begged me to commend to your Serenity Parvis, an English merchant, and John Berton, who are being tried in Court of the Ten Officers on account of some barrels of white lead. As the Ambassador is very well disposed I advise that his request be granted.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 5th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

508. Letter from Paul Pindar to the Venetian Ambassador.

My most Illustrious and Excellent Lord. The business I would specially commend to your Lordship is this: Henry Parvis, an English merchant, married, and dwelling in Venice, bought on my behalf and shipped on board the English ship "Matthew" some barrels of white lead for Constantinople. For this he has been prosecuted in the office of the Dieci Officii, and Giovanni Berton, a Venetian broker, has been fined for making out the bill. I beg your Illustrious Lordship to favour me with your recommendation that Parvis and Berton may not be harassed over this business.

From my house, 4th May, 1612. At your service, Paul Pindar.

[*Italian.*]

May 5.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

509. Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of the Dutch, despairing of success owing to the opposition of the French Ambassador and others asked leave to retire, but supported by Halil Pasha and the Mufti he was admitted to kiss the Sultan's hand, and received a banquet in town after giving two thousand dollars to the Lieutenant Grand Vizer, who the day before had expressed indignation at the Ambassador's pretensions. He gave the Grand Signor seventy robes of silk, four great vases of ivory, and four cups of delicately cut rock crystal, some fine webs and other things. The Sultan was quite pleased, also the Vizirs and the whole Court. He is certain that he has succeeded in his object of obtaining free traffic for his nation. He promises abundance of webs, both of wool and of silk, and declares that his Masters will furnish fifty ships to the Turks when they need them.

I have sent to present my compliments, as have the Ambassadors of France and England.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 5th May, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

May 5.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

510. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

Prince Filiberto has taken up his command as General of the Sea, but is not expected to do much this year. No attempt to take Ma'amura will be made till they have more money, though it

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is quite well known that the King cannot be master of the Straits of Gibraltar until he holds that port which is a nest of pirates; the attempts to "bottle" their fleet having proved a failure.

Madrid, 5th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 5. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

511. GIACOMO VENDRAMIN, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the DOGE and SENATE.

I have heard that in a sermon preached in the Palace by his Highness' Confessor, in the presence of all their Highnesses, the preacher dwelt on the way in which a Catholic woman should conduct herself if married to a heretic. This is taken as an indication of a match concluded with England.

Florence, 5th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 7. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

512. FRANCESCO DONADO, Venetian Governor in Zante, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The *berton* "Colombo" and the ship "Pigna," towed by the English ship "Royal Exchange," arrived in this port from Constantinople; the Pigna had lost her main mast, which was struck by lightning off Andros on the night of Thursday in Holy Week.

Zante, 7th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 8. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

513. ZORZI GIUSTINIAN, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Ambassador sent his Secretary to Villeroy to complain about *the Grisons* and the orders given to *Paschal. He is to explain the surprise of Venice when the Three Leagues in a Pittag* at Chur agreed not to renew the treaty with Venice, and when it was discovered that Paschal had instigated this step . . . . Villeroy said it was true the late King had first of all supported the treaty, but he subsequently found many inconveniences arising from it; one being that, on the excuse of this treaty, the Spanish had built fort Fuentes.*

Paris, 8th May, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 11. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

514. The ENGLISH AMBASSADOR came to the CABINET and spoke as follows:

Expresses regret for the absence of the Doge; had heard that he was in good health, and had hoped to report so to his Majesty in the despatches he was sending that day. Dandolo, Vice-Doge, replied that his Serenity had been present in the Cabinet these last days; he was detained at home to-day as he was taking medicine. He will convey to the Doge the Ambassador's courteous remarks.

* A corruption for *Beitag*, the body which discharged current affairs in the Grisons.

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The Ambassador continued; he will inform his Majesty that the Republic has recently cured certain acute sores which had been laid bare,* also that in foreign affairs it had concluded some negotiations to its great prestige. His Majesty, not out of any personal interest, but from his love and esteem for the Republic, will be very glad.

Dandolo replied that they were quite convinced of this. The Ambassador then said that his Sovreign, seeing that the face of affairs was changing, had thought it advisable to draw close in bonds of alliance with the Princes of the Union. This alliance was concluded in April in the city of Wesel, where his Majesty's Ambassador had met the Envoys of the Princes; the duration of the Treaty was to be six years.

He has news that the King of Denmark is well and is arming against Sweden, which is doing the same, but the King of England is endeavouring to find a way to settle their differences, and hopes to succeed.

The Ambassador will say nothing about Wotton's arrival in Italy, as it is well known. His friend, Girolomo Monte, of Vicenza, a friend of Wotton's as well, had obtained a safe-conduct for five years, which expires on the last of this month. Monte desires a prolongation, and has begged the Ambassador to support his request. He handed in the safe-conduct.

Dandolo promises to take the question into favourable consideration.

[*Italian.*]

May 18. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

515. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Sir Henry Wotton, who was expected on last Wednesday, has not appeared yet, although three days ago his Highness sent the Count Francesco Martinengo with the cuirassiers of the guard and the archers to meet him two miles beyond Rivoli. Wotton cannot be much longer now, as his Highness this morning set out for Rivoli, where he intends to receive the Envoy and may be to stay a day or two there with him the better to learn the purport of his mission. I am told that the Cardinal and the Princes are to go as far as Mirafiore to meet him; if that be true Wotton will be treated almost as though he were the King himself. There are already signs of preparations for festivals. Generally it is thought that Wotton brings nothing but fair words, though his Highness has other ideas and hopes for some advantage; hopes in which he is confirmed by the report of the Marchese de Lanz, who says that Wotton, whom he met in Savoy, told him that he was the bearer of good news.

Turin, 13th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

516. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Sunday the 6th of this month the Duke de Bouillon arrived in this city. On Tuesday he was received by the King in the

* Referring to the case of the noble, Anzolo Badoer, accused of selling State secrets.

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Great Hall, under a very rich baldacchino, along with the Queen. They were seated on two thrones, and behind them were the Prince and the Princess, while on foot and uncovered the Duke of York stood hard by. In the same way the titled gentlemen formed in ranks along the walls along with the Ladies of the Queen and the Princess. The Hall was full of gentlemen with gilt swords; in short, the greatness and grandeur of this Court was set forth that day as they know how. The Duke appeared supported by more than a hundred French gentlemen. The King received and honoured him, and after a very long speech he kissed the Queen's hand and made suitable compliments to the Princes and the Princess. On Thursday he had a long and very favourable audience of the Queen, after which I paid him a visit. I did not omit to meet him on his arrival and to cause him to be escorted to his audience by my carriages. On Sunday at the Royal Chapel there were three Ambassadors, the Duc de Bouillon, the Count of Hanau and M. de Plessen. They stayed to dine with the King. The Count of Hanau showed some signs of intending to take precedence on the ground that, in this present interregnum of the Empire, the Palatine is Imperial Vicar, but on the first sign from the King he withdrew and submitted. The banquet was served by the same persons who had served the banquet given to the Savoyard Ambassador, only without the collars of their orders. The food was the same, but the concert of music more varied. The King invited Hanau to drink a pledge, whispering something in his ear. Hanau replied aloud that his Majesty's wishes would be met. It is supposed that what the King said to him was that he drank to the Palatine's coming which, his ambassadors say, will be in less than two months' time. Meanwhile they will negotiate preliminaries, but will not conclude anything, as the King requires the Palatine's presence as an act of respect, and also that the sight of him should dissipate the rumours that he is suffering from various hereditary diseases—rumours which are not credited and are ascribed to malignity. The Envoys were with the King on Friday of last week and Tuesday of this; on Saturday in Council they presented a long memorandum to his Majesty. The business is not very far on as yet. They are negotiating with certain delegates who make summary reports to the King. He and all the Court is well disposed towards this match.

On de Bouillon's arrival I took steps to discover his instructions, availing myself of my acquaintance with several personages in his suite. His first remark was to ask me what I thought of the state of France; no King had ever been so absolute, nor so implicitly obeyed as was the Queen. He then spoke of the suspicions awakened by the Spanish matches, here and elsewhere; he said that he had come in order to convince the King of their determination to keep their word. I gather that he is charged to offer the King anything that will convince him of the sincerity of France. If his Majesty desires a federation they will agree. The Spanish Ambassador discussing the question with me, said he thought that de Bouillon might say something in the name of Spain, and I divined that Zuñiga will make the same proposals as though in

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accord with France. The Marshal, however, and the Lieger of France do all they can to show that the understanding between the Crowns of France and Spain is not of the nature that is conjectured. They had a private audience on Wednesday the 9th; then on two other occasions. The day before yesterday they went to Hampton Court, where they stayed till late yesterday evening. De Bouillon has pleased the King and adduced very convincing arguments. As yet all his discussions have turned on two points—one is that although owing to reasons of State, during the King's minority, they have contracted matrimonial alliances, that does not breed full confidence and should not arouse suspicion. The other point is that France will always be loyal to England; will maintain her alliance and should the King desire a still closer one France would agree to it on any conditions the King may choose to impose. He also touched on the question of the marriage of the Prince, recalling the offers made some time ago to give him the eldest Princess of France. The King saw them at Hampton Court for greater secrecy and convenience.

The Marshal is sumptuously entertained by the King along with three hundred mouths of his suite. They will remain at least two or three weeks. The Spanish Ambassador wished to wait on the Duke but without the presence of the French Ambassador in ordinary, whom he cannot endure ever since the affair of the Savoyard Ambassador. The Marshal would not assent, declaring that they could not separate from each other as they had been together when receiving all other visits. The Duke was willing that the Spaniard should say to the French Lieger "My Lord, I would not have waited on you had it not been for the Marshal," but he would not consent, and so no visits took place. The first visit returned by the Duke was to your Serenity's Ambassador. I have reported the substance of his remarks.

Last week Signor Carlo Rossi, Ambassador of Mantua, was here. On Thursday the 10th he had an audience of the King. There was no one with his Majesty but the Duke of York; there was a sprinkling of peers and many gentlemen. He stood under the baldacchino. The audience was very solemn. The Ambassador has not yet seen the Queen, although he has pressed to be received; he is now resolved to kiss her hand and to take his leave at the same time. He had hardly arrived before the Spanish Ambassador sent to wait on him, and escorted him to his audience with the Spanish Embassy carriages, and actually visited him before being visited; he also caused the Flemish Ambassador to visit him, he gave him a dinner and showed all manner of courtesies to oblige him. I did not fail to send to wait on him the moment I heard of his arrival, and I offered to put him up in the Embassy, for which he thanked me. I pressed the invitation. Moved by the conduct of the Spanish Ambassador, I instantly visited him. What the Ambassador said to me is reported in the next dispatch. I will only say that he bewailed the death of his Master and Mistress, whom he praised and professed attachment to.

London, 18th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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May 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

517. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Mantuan Ambassador told me that after he had had his first audience of the Queen of France her Majesty said that he must come to the Palace every evening now, for as he had discharged his business as Ambassador he was to be considered as a private person and she desired to speak privately to him. This took place one evening in a small cabinet where there was no one present save Concini, a little apart. There, with his wonted frankness, the Ambassador told the Queen that the publication of these Spanish matches was inopportune, for it had disgusted the Duke of Savoy, made England suspicious, and also the Dutch, the German Princes and the Princes of Italy, who were most closely united to the Crown of France. The Queen replied that the Spaniards insisted on the publication, and he remarked that they did so for their own advantage, with a view to affecting the Imperial Election. The French Huguenots may not unreasonably suspect that these matches will have the result of suppressing them. The Ambassador then reviewed the situation in Italy. The Duke of Mantua, whom the Spaniards held to be theirs, was at heart the enemy of Spain. Savoy was ill affected towards Spain, and ready for an alliance with France, but the publication of the marriages and his own exclusion had disgusted him. The Duke of Mantua's policy was to stand well with the Republic. There will soon be a rupture between Villeroy who does not desire the return of Soissons, and Concini who works for it.

London, 18th May, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

May 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

518. ZORZI GIUSTINIAN, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the DOGE and SENATE.

In all my conversations with these Ministers about the affair of the Grisons they have all tried to convince me that the Spanish matches have nothing to do with it.

Paris, 18th May, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

May 18.
Senato, Secreta. Communicate. Venetian Archives.

519. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the CHIEFS of the COUNCIL OF TEN.

I have been waiting letters from your Serenity thanking the King for the honour done by beginning to treat your Ambassadors on an equality with those of Crowned Heads, and the promise to treat differently all who cannot adduce such convincing proofs as I have done. There is no other security for this attitude than the word of the King; it would therefore be well by writing to thank him to draw out letters from him which would constitute written evidence; this could be advantageously done as long as the Earl of Salisbury is here, for in his absence there is confusion.

London, 18th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
May 19.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

520. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

In addition to what I reported as having been stated to the King by the Ambassador of the States, he further assured his Majesty that his Masters would never make peace with Spain, not even if the Spanish renounced all pretensions absolutely, as they had done in the truce, and abandoned any question of the Catholic rite. The Ambassador in conversation with me declared that there was no need to talk of a peace for five or six years to come, as the truce had upwards of eight years to run, and in this interval many things might happen; the King of France would, by that time, have come of age and would be governing his Kingdom himself; the Archduke Albert might easily die and in that case most probably a change would take place; the United Provinces are eleven in number and are called United because they can not afford to be separate, the remainder that are still subject might with justice claim their freedom if Spain failed to observe her obligations; three years ago he, in the name of the States, had offered them liberty both in temporal and spiritual matters. All the Magistrates are dependents of Spain and the Jesuits, and so for the present matters stand where they are, but it is certain that in their hearts almost all desire to join the free Provinces and to enjoy a like liberty; they are only waiting the opportunity, which would be offered by any change of Government.

From this discourse I seemed to gather three points; one, that the King of France on attaining his majority will prove to be like his father, closely bound to them for State reasons and an enemy of Spain; two, a firm resolve on the part of the United Provinces to risk war to free the Provinces still dependent on the King of Spain, in the certainty that they are only waiting an opportunity to rise; third, a horror of peace. I have no doubt that all this is well known in Spain, and that one of the reasons, apart from lack of money and men, which restricts their actions and designs is the fear of not being able to hold that district. The Spanish Ambassador discussing the military power of the various Princes and dwelling on their money, men and Councillors, placed the United Provinces higher than many other Princes combined, for they are rich, provided with excellent troops, and directed by a sound and liberal council; and in general he exalted their power.

M. de Plessen, first Councillor and Ambassador of the Elector Palatine, who, along with the Count of Hanau, visited me on the fifth of this month, assured me that the four great Swiss Cantons are seeking admission to the Union. This is very acceptable to many of the German Princes, chiefly because as the Grisons alone lie in the way, they could then come into touch with your Serenity, and so spread to this kingdom a line of friendly, united and confederated states. And although the Dutch have not sworn to the confederation at Wesel, out of deference to the King so as to allow him to enter alone, they have passed their word sufficiently to bind them (che li 4 gran Cantoni de Svizzeri procurono d'haver luoco nella Unione di Prencipi della quale è capoil Rè, che ciò piacera a mo'ti principi de Germania principalmente

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per potere, non vi essendo che Grisoni in mezzo, dar la mano alla Serenità Vostra et continuare fino a questo Regno con paese amico, unito et confederato; et sebene li Stati non hanno giurato la confederatione a Guselle per differir quell' honore che si dovera al Rè lasciandolo entrar solo, ma habbino già dato la parola quanto basta ad obligarsi). He pointed out to me that at the most important crisis, the Federated Princes had kept a Resident at Venice, and declared that they were willing to bind themselves still closer; he dwelt on the advantages that would accrue to both parties.*

I replied in courteous terms, but said that as to a further alliance it hardly seemed the moment to raise the question, as there were so many States which lay between your Serenity and the Princes. Moreover I I did not see any immediate danger of attack. The Ambassador agreed that the Princes must first gain over and secure the great Cantons, and then proceed to negotiate with your Serenity at the fitting moment. The Count of Hanau approved and confirmed, and so the conversation was carried into another field.

The next day the Count of Hanau sent his Secretary to me with paragraphs out of letters recently received from Germany. They give the news that the Constable of Castile had been so successful in the Grisons that, with the help of the Bishop of Chur and of the French Ambassador, he had persuaded them to abandon their Alliance with Venice, and to open the passes to the Spanish for as many troops as they chose to send into Germany. The Count dwelt on the extreme importance of this news. On Tuesday the Duke of Bouillon came to visit me, accompanied by the Lieger. He dwelt on the advantage to the friends of France that she should continue as she is at present, united and obedient to the King and Queen, and he added that this ought to be reassuring to your Serenity above all others. When I heard the Marshal talking in this fashion—as I had known him fairly well for some time, and as I had also received confirmation from other quarters of the Count of Hanau's news as to the abandonment of the Venetian Alliance by the Grisons, and that the Constable of Castile had availed himself of the French Ambassador in this affair—I remarked to de Bouillon as from myself, that this operation in no way coincided with the good will displayed by your Excellencies, nor with the friendly attitude of the late King, which de Bouillon himself had so often assured me that the Queen desired to continue. I pointed out that while his Excellency had assured me most warmly that Venice might count on France, the French Ambassador's action in the Grisons bore a very different aspect. De Bouillon affected to hear this with surprise. He thanked me for my frankness and for my evident desire for a good understanding between France and Venice. He said he would write that very day to France so that the Queen might take steps to remedy the mischief if things were really so. He was sure that the Ambassador had no instructions to take such a step. He used rigorous language; declaring that her Majesty was resolved to hold by her friends; that the Spanish matches were merely false legs; that recently M. de Villeroy had clearly told the Spanish Ambassador that France would never allow the Duke of Savoy to be oppressed. They intend to send an Ambassador to the Duke. At this mention of Ambassadors I asked

* Lenk. *See* Moriz Ritter "Die Union und Heinrich IV." pp. 379-462.

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how M. de Créqui was, who had been named to the Embassy in return for the mission of the Illustrious Gussoni and Nani. The Marshal made some remarks on the various Embassies. I must add that when speaking of the ill turn done by the French Ambassador in the Grisons I repeated that I was speaking for myself. He said he was quite convinced of it, for otherwise your Excellencies would have instructed the Ambassador Giustinian to raise the question in Paris; our talk was as between friends and would do good. The Lieger when visiting me declared that if the Ambassador in the Grisons had exceeded his instructions he would be punished. He told me that the Queen continues to pay the two regiments of infantry in the service of the Dutch, and they are now sending one hundred thousand crowns for that purpose; this continued protection of the United Provinces is a proof that the Queen does not intend to abandon her best friends. The Princess of France will not go to Spain nor the Infanta to France for at least three years to come. In spite of all the festivals and rejoicings there are still some points to settle. He begged me not to report this in writing as it would easily be known in Spain—enough for me to know it without divulging it.

I have gathered from the words of the Marshal and also of the Lieger that they are resolved to write to the Queen and to Villeroy to give orders to the French Ambassador in the Grisons that he is to act in conformity with the interests and the wishes of your Excellencies, towards whom it is necessary to show the same regard as is shown to other Princes, all the more so that more than a year ago the Count of Rosafaglione was named and proclaimed Ambassador, and later on the more experienced M. de Créqui. The Ambassador of the Palatine confirmed the wish of the great Cantons to enter the Union, and showed that he thought this news of great importance, as they are warlike people to say nothing of the passes. The people of the Grisons will be obliged to follow their lead, both on account of the federation between them and also because they are so infinitely inferior in numbers and in discipline.

London, 19th May, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 19. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

521. Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Dutch Ambassador is studying the French, English and Venetian Capitulations, to extract from them what suits his purpose.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 19th May, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

522. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

May 20. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

The Ambassador of the King of Great Britain arrived on Sunday the 13th at Rivoli, where the Duke awaited him. His Highness sent to say that he desired to see him at once that he might embrace him, but the Envoy excused himself on the ground of his fatigue and the fact that he was in a burning fever which had held him from Mont Cenis to Rivoli, and that therefore he was obliged to

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go to bed. He was visited by his Highness' doctors, who declared the cause to be an over heating while crossing the mountain due partly to his being extra clothed against the cold, which is usually bitter in those regions. On Monday they bled him slightly, with which remedy and with rest they promised a speedy cure. His Highness, however, was impatient, and the very day the Envoy was bled he summoned him to audience, and the Ambassador had to go. They stayed two hours in close and secret conference and the same the day following, which was Tuesday. The same evening he came on to Turin and the Duke followed in a few hours. Up to his arrival at Rivoli the Envoy has received such abundant honours that he lets everyone see he has had enough of them. I gather that after his interview these compliments are somewhat moderated. He is however, lodged in the Palace of the Marchese di Lanz, richly furnished for the occasion with his Highness's own tapestries, and especially with some velvet hangings wrought in gold and silver thread. There is also a baldacchino. He is boarded at the Duke's charges.

On Wednesday I sent to wait on him and condole on his illness and to ask when he could receive me. He replied that for that day he was given over to doctors and medicine. I sent to enquire for him the two following days and on the third he said he was ready to see me. Accordingly on Friday afternoon I waited on him.

After an exchange of compliments and expressions of devotion, Wotton went on to describe his journey. He confessed himself outworn by the attentions shewn him. At every place he reached he was met in his Highness' name and entertained at collations and banquets. On this side of the mountains the compliments were redoubled, so that he could not move two miles without fresh honours and favours. All this proved the hopes of the Duke for a favourable conclusion. The Envoy told me in confidence that he brings a decided negative, but covered up in terms of esteem; the Pope being the chief obstacle, and the action of Spain a warning.

Wotton introduced his suite to the Venetian Ambassador, with the words "I swear to God we are all good Venetians."

Turin, 20th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 20. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

523. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Wotton complains that since his arrival in Turin he had not been able to see any of the Duke's Ministers except the Count of Ruffia. Supposes that the Duke has few whom he can trust, as the majority belong either to the Spanish or to the French faction.

The Duke told Wotton that he would leave it to him whether he would visit the Cardinal or not; Wotton replied that he was a gentleman and would consider it an honour to visit the Cardinal. He added "I have no scruples on this point; indeed the first person to embrace me after I left England was the Cardinal of Lorraine, whom I visited in his bed and who kept me a while with him; but I

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do not know what the Cardinal may wish, nor do I know if it will suit him, as a prelate of the Church, to receive the Ambassador of a heretic Sovreign who is separated from the Roman Catholic Communion."

Turin, 20th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 21. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

524. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the 7th the Earl of Salisbury left for the baths. Later news reports him the same or a little better. In his absence the King has given the charge of opening despatches to two Secretaries; the seal to another; and Salisbury's other offices are distributed, for the time of his absence, between the Earl of Pembroke and Sir Julius Cesar, a son of one of your Serenity's subjects.* The King avails himself also in parts of the Earl of Northampton, and he has created Viscount Rochester of the Council, but notwithstanding all this he settles nothing without the advice of Salisbury, who, in spite of ill heath and absence, governs everything. The post goes daily from London to Bath, and from Bath to London. Whether his Excellency will die of this disease is a disputed point, but all are agreed that the loss would be great; and I should feel it severely owing to the devotion which he shows to your Excellencies and his regard for him who serves you. I have been anxiously waiting letters from your Excellencies conveying thanks to the King, and wish they had arrived while the Earl of Salisbury was still here, as that would have helped greatly to confirm the King's desire and his word. Your Serenity is aware what trouble your Ambassadors have had in former times over this point, and the failure to render thanks to his Majesty may induce them to think that the favour is not appreciated and so render it valueless.

On the arrival of the Palatine's Ambassadors the Spanish Envoy said to me that the Elector had never once written to his master, that he was of a different religion and that he would not visit them; but afterwards he went, remarking to me that the Count of Hanau was not only Ambassador but also uncle of the Palatine, an independent Prince, and that at this juncture of an Imperial election it was desirable to conciliate all Princes. He accordingly treated them with the greatest courtesy and respect, but they understood the object. The Ambassador recently received an express from Spain, and asked for audience, which was granted him yesterday. The Palatine's Ambassador told me that all votes will be concentrated on Mathias unless things change, but first of all the Electors desire to modify abuses and raise the prestige of the Empire and its members where it is oppressed. The Elector of Brandenburg will be represented by proxy. News from the Hague that Count Maurice on his return reviewed and strengthened all his garrisons on the frontier.

The Dutch Envoy has not reached Constantinople by the letters of the 20th of March. They have sent a reply to the letters of Halil Pasha.

* Adelmare of Treviso.

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Up to yesterday the Spanish Ambassador had not visited the Duke de Bouillon; the difficulty about the Lieger, from whom the Duke will not part, still remains alive. The King retains his rancour against Spain, and the fact that they are sending here Don Pedro de Zuñiga, who is neither Duke nor Grandee, is displeasing, especially as it is known that to France they have sent both Duke and Grandee, and France has sent here a Duke and an officer of the Crown in the person of de Bouillon. *The King attends to his affairs as he ought. I will seek audience one of these days after the arrival of the ordinary post, which may bring desptaches from your Excellencies. I will endeavour cautiously to lead the conversation so as to find out exactly the value of the rumours about a League between the Pope, France, Spain and Tuscany; it is possible that the King, who is so deeply concerned, may have got to the bottom of it, and I repeat and firmly hope that he will confide in me.*

London, 21st May, 1612.

[*Italian*; *the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 22.
Senato, Terra, filza. Venetian Archives

525. Petition of Southcot Vaymonth.

Most Serene Prince, I, Southcot Vaymonth, for many years along with friends and relations, have laboured to find a way to make knitted stockings (*calze guchiade*) cheaper than they are made at present. We made many experiments, costing us thousands of ducats, and have discovered the way. Considering to whom I should offer this beautiful and useful invention, I resolved to bring it to the City of Venice, which is wont to welcome every honest and industrious man, especially of our nation which is popular here. If your Serenity adopts my invention you will give employment to many idle hands, who could thus maintain themselves and their families by turning out stockings, not only sufficient for this city but for others as well, as experience will show. It is only just that I, a foreigner, should not be defrauded of my pains and my money. I ask for a patent for forty years under a fine of one hundred ducats.

On this an order was made that the Proveditori di Comun are to examine and report, as also are the Savii alla Mercantia.

[*Italian.*]

Covered by preceding document.

526. Report of the Savii alla Mercantia.

We have examined the machinery, which is "bello, nobile et molto ingegnoso." We consider the petition should be granted, but for twenty-five years only.

March 5, 1612.

Piero Soranzo.
Zuan Marco da Molin.
Antonio Barbaro.

[*Italian.*]

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Covered by preceding document.

527. Report of the Proveditori di Comun.

We have examined the invention, which differs essentially from the ordinary method of knitting which is done with needles, whereas these are woven on a frame. We consider the petition should be granted.

From our office, 14th April, 1612.

Zaune Corner.
Piero Emo.
Piero Capello.

[*Italian.*]

May 22.
Senato, Terra. Venetian Archives.

528. Patent to the Southcot Vaymont, an Englishman, for his invention for knitting stockings, on the recommendation of the Proveditori di Comun and the Cinque Savii alla Mercantia. Duration, thirty years; applies to the whole of the Venetian dominions; provided the invention is really new. Fine, one hundred ducats.

Ayes 69.
Noes 7.
Neutrals 13.

[*Italian.*]

May 23.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

529. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Spanish Ambassador in his audience of Saturday last stayed but a short time and was not well received by the King. He said that he had hopes that his successor would soon be appointed, and that he would depart, glad at being relieved from speaking on orders which were subsequently denied by him who gave them. He went on to say that Don Pedro de Zuñiga, Marchese de Flores, on his Embassy Extraordinary, would tell the King that his Catholic Majesty has been deeply distressed at the course of past negotiations for a marriage: had he known the King's pleasure before matters were so far advanced with France he would have proved to the King and the whole world the esteem in which he held his Majesty and the Prince; Zuñiga is to conclude by declaring that the King of Spain for two years past had given no orders that could be interpreted as an invitation to ask the Infanta's hand, for on a previous occasion, through the Constable of Castile, and again through Zuñiga, he had conveyed as much as seemed sufficient to reveal his inclination, and he had not thought it fit to multiply words. The Lieger dwelt on this point, and declared that no other consolation remained to him save that his Majesty himself had seen the orders conveyed in letters from the Duke of Lerma on this subject, and this fact was so firmly established in the Council that no further doubt was possible. One of the reasons which had induced him to seek this Embassy was the hope of conducting to a successful issue the negotiations which had already been begun by the Constable, who as a member of the same family and a near relation, had

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encouraged him to the task. The King made a very brief and unpleasant reply. The Ambassador then touched on the subject of corsairs and fared no better.

The day before yesterday I visited de Bouillon and the Lieger, who was with him. The Marshal praised the King, the favours he had received, the admirable tone of the King's mind, from which he says he has removed any shadow of suspicion caused by the Franco-Spanish matches. Among his other arguments he said, "*Sire, your Majesty does not desire to encroach on any one, no more does France, nor Venice, nor the Dutch, nor the German Princes, nor is it to be believed that any one else will attempt a change except the King of Spain. Well then, let us agree together to prevent him; so that each of us may continue to enjoy his own.*" *This the Marshal said looking hard at me; so it may serve to inform your Excellencies; or perhaps it was thrown out as a feeler. He told me he had written to the Queen, as he promised, about the Grisons, and there could be no doubt but that she would send orders to her Ambassador and give proofs of her love and regard in all things.* In France the Princes of the blood were about to return and everything was tending to peace. Yesterday the Marshal saw the King, and to-day he met the King in Council. He has most assuredly proposed a close alliance on the lines that may seem best to his Majesty, and if the King chose to think that a matrimonial alliance is helpful as uniting the interests of both parties, there is the King's second sister whom, in the Queen's name, he offers for marriage to the Prince, just as on a previous occasion the late King had suggested the eldest Princess. An intimate of the King told me that his Majesty desired all this to be set forth in Council, so as to enhance his prestige.

Three days ago the Ambassadors of the Palatine and de Bouillon had audience of the King, the Lieger standing a little apart, though the King told him he might draw near, as he knew he desired the favourable issue of the negotiations. The terms proposed by these Ambassadors are various; they promise that the Princess shall have precedence of the Electress Dowager; she is to have a separate Court as befits a great Princess, and it will be composed of English, Scotch or any other nationality she pleases. They ask a dower of twenty-four thousand crowns a year, besides some small sum in cash down. They offer a counter dower. Signor Canut who was charged to come to an understanding on certain points has also laid them before his Majesty. The Palatine's Ambassadors have spoken to me about the idea of a Tuscan match with a great dowery for the Prince, and the difficulties in the way. The Princesses of France and Spain are still children, while the Prince is of marriagable age; they wound up with mentioning the Elector's sisters, three in number, and showed me their likenesses; all of this is sufficient to indicate what their wishes were.

Signor Carlo de Rossi, Ambassador of Mantua, has at one and the same time kissed the Queen's hand and taken his leave, as I said he would. He has also taken leave of the King and received a diamond as a gift. This evening he is getting ready to set out to-morrow. The Marshal de Bouillon will dine with the King to-morrow, the Lieger of France entertaining several persons of quality. I know from a sure source that the King desired to speak

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privately with the Marshal. I will continue to discover all that goes on at this Court, where there are so many negotiations in the air, as your Excellencies know. Meantime I will bring to your notice what happened the day before yesterday late in the evening, after I had sent off my last despatches.

London, 23rd May, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 24. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

530. To the King of Great Britain.

Thanking him for the favour shown to Foscarini by deciding the question of precedence and giving the Republic rank with Crowned Heads.

Ayes 107.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 27.

[*Italian.*]

Amendment to foregoing.

May 24. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

531. To the King of Great Britain.

Thanking the King for having recognised for Foscarini the place which belongs to the Venetian Ambassador, by right of ancient possession, at all the Courts of Great Princes.

Ayes 24.

[*Italian.*]

May 24. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

532. To the Ambassador in England.

Your representations to his Majesty made with a view to securing recognition as the equal of Ambassadors from Crowned Heads are worthy of your zeal and prudence, and we praise you accordingly. You are to tender thanks in our name, and to present the letter which we enclose if you think it prudent and if the matter is really concluded.

Ayes 107.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 27.

[*Italian.*]

Amendment to preceding.

May 24. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

533. To the Ambassador in England.

Besides the representations you have made to the King in thanking him for granting you the same exemption as is extended to Ambassadors of Kings, you are to present our thanks as well and to hand him the enclosed letter. You are to support on all occasions the public dignity but are to avoid the necessity for adducing proofs.

Ayes 24.

[*Italian.*]

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May 24.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

534. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Letters from the Hague and copy of the Dutch reply to Halil Pasha. I send a translation into Italian. The Dutch expect a great profit from freedom to trade inside the Turkish Empire. They know who has been opposing them and they are convinced that their Ambassador is treated on a footing with the French and English Ambassadors. They have ordered their Envoy to convince the Pasha, by gifts, that he will bestow his favours well if he supports the United Provinces. They believe that many Dutch slaves have been set free, and they know that the fact of their having fought the Spanish for so long and having gained so many victories, has secured them the affection and respect of the Turk. In short they promise themselves great profit both public and private, as owing to their distance from Turkey they are freed from any grounds for suspicion, while they are united to the Grand Signor in bonds of common hatred of Spain and desire for her downfall. They have sent this letter in copy along with their Ambassador's, so that in any case it will reach the Pasha's hands, and he will see what orders were given about presents. It is now some years that the Dutch have frequented the Levant with a large number of ships and have tasted the profits of that trade; and as I have already advised, we may be sure that they will draw a large part of it to themselves. I trust that all their operations will come to your Excellencies' notice, and you may already have heard of the steps they propose to take in this matter and of the letters they may write.

On Monday, 7th of the month, the French Ambassador (Refuges) had audience of the States, to whom he presented the usual claim that they should pay to the King of England the third part of the money advanced to them by the late King; they pretend that this money was given them as a gift at the last confederation when war against Spain was on the point of breaking out in Flanders, Milan and Spain itself. The two French regiments in the service of the States have been paid by the Queen, and another pay will be made in a few days; but it does not seem that her Majesty is really bent on keeping them up. The Ambassador has paid the King one hundred and sixty thousand crowns in two instalments of eighty thousand each, in part payment of the debt due to this Crown. Here they are not neglecting commerce; nay, various conventions are confirmed and there is a plan for opening a Bank which shall have correspondents in all parts of these Kingdoms. The Prince, who is much interested in the colonization of Florida, has got leave from the King to open a lottery, so designed that they must reap a large profit.

The three ships sent out to make sure of the North-West passage sailed a month and a half ago. They have been sighted, by ships arrived here, in safety and sailing well. Nothing more is known of them, but one is expected back in three months or a little more with certain news of the passage. The Company is preparing to send out without delay a number of ships in cargo. To the ears of the Prince, who is keen for glory, come suggestions of conquests far greater than any made by the Kings of Spain. The corsairs

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continue to plunder along the Spanish coast, and this gives his Catholic Majesty a ground for complaint.

London, 24th May, 1612.

Postscript.—I omitted to say that with the letters for the Pasha from the States of Holland, others to the same purport have been sent by Count Maurice. Here the rumour still runs that at Leghorn they admit English pirates with their prizes, and that Florentine merchants pass the goods on to Sacca di Goro or Ancona, or wherever they find the highest profits.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

535. Letter from the States of Holland to Halil Pasha.

We are duly informed that your Excellency's good will towards our country causes you to regret the delay in the arrival of our Orator in Constantinople. We are aware that in the meantime there are some who endeavour to countermine his position at the Porte. We wish to thank you, as our Orator will have already done by word of mouth, as we expect he will have arrived in Constantinople long before this reaches it. We add a copy of the letter our Orator bears in case by some misfortune he should have been delayed. We count firmly on your Excellency's support, so that our Orator may obtain a full and gracious reply.

The Hague, 4th May, 1612.

To the Most Excellent, Valiant and Prudent Lord, the Capudan Pasha, Admiral-in-Chief of the Grand Signor in Constantinople.

[*Italian.*]

May 26. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

536. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Many English pirates have arrived at Leghorn, where they are selling muslins and Holland cloth very cheap. Here they call them merchantmen.

Florence, 26th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 27. Senato. Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

537. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke of Savoy at an audience granted to the Venetian Ambassador gave him to understand that he still had great hopes of an alliance with England. Though he could not offer such a dower as the Grand Duke of Tuscany was proposing, still the nobility of his blood was such that great Sovreigns might quite well seek to ally themselves with him. He asked the Ambassador what he thought, and Gussoni replied that his Highness would, no doubt, carry the negotiation through; that gold did not count for everything with great Kings, and that the influence of the Queen of France was not likely to be great at the English Court. The Duke replied that he feared it would not prove so, for the King of

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England was lavish, and money would have great weight. He went on to say that certainly the King of Great Britain showed great regard for him as he had sent him a very handsome present, of a sword, valued at forty thousand crowns, and some handsome horses richly caparisoned.

The English Ambassador has spread the rumour here that the Grand Turk has declared that he will no longer take tribute from the Ragusans, but will make himself absolute master of their city. The Ragusans, it seems, would choose rather to become Spanish subjects than submit to the Turk.

The English Ambassador continues here, though he gives out that he will leave in three or four days. He is entertained by the Duke at jousts, tourneys, dances, the chase, but all without any pomp of liveries and quite ordinary. The eldest Prince was to have given an entertainment at Mirafiore, but finding the time too short to allow him to carry out his ideas he resolved to do nothing. The Ambassador visited the Princes and the Cardinal, and told me the Cardinal had paid him the most attention in the way of carriages. Neither his Highness nor the Princes treated him in any way out of the ordinary; indeed I am told that in walking down the gallery the Duke took the right hand side of the Ambassador. The Ambassador visited the Princesses and made them his compliments, standing hat in hand: and they say he made them laugh and blush; he chiefly addressed his remarks to the eldest, the Princess Maria—who, if any alliance were concluded, would be the bride of the Prince.

Turin, 27th May, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

May 31. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

538. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

I continue to use the greatest diligence to find out if they are really negotiating an offensive and defensive league between the Pope, the Crowns, and the Grand Duke. The English Ambassador told me that he is informed that the Pope is still very anxious to create the League, but nothing more will be done. I hold that a defensive alliance between the two Crowns actually exists as a result of the matches, but that without urgent necessity they will not include other princes. I have secret agents in the houses of the Nuncio and the Florentine Ambassador, and know that they are not in close treaty.

The Spanish Ambassador in England says that Wotton is taking a very rich present to the Duke of Savoy, but he has orders to break off all negotiations for a match. That agrees with the remark of the English Ambassador here, *that his master would take care not to mix himself up with the Duke of Savoy, so as to avoid being embroiled in the adventures on which the Duke loves to embark.* The Duke, finding his hopes of an English or Spanish or French match illusory, *will be compelled to fall back on a Tuscan match.* The talk of the match between the King of Spain and the English Princess is dying away. As I said, I *think that the rumour was put about*

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to pacify English suspicions of the alliance with France. Don Pedro de Zuñiga has delayed his departure for London *so as not to arrive there while the Duke de Bouillon is at that Court.*

Madrid, 31st May, 1612.

[*Italian ; the parts in italics deciphered.*]

May 31. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

539. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have found out the instructions given by the Queen of France to the Duke de Bouillon, his negotiations here and, in great part, the replies of the King. His commission had six points; (1) to assure the King that the Spanish matches did not imply anything more than matches, nor would they prevent France lending the support of her arms to England in case of attack, and the same in the case of all her other Allies; (2) to offer an alliance if the King thought it desirable upon even closer terms than the one of a year and a half ago; (3) if occasion offered, to propose the second Princess of France as wife for the Prince of Wales; (4) to exhort the King to keep the Princes of Germany well together, and to praise him for what he has done so far; (5) to advise him to remain allied closely with the States, dropping any little displeasure he may have felt over the affair of Vorstius; (6) to promise full satisfaction over the money due from France to England. There is a special clause empowering de Bouillon to speak as Ambassador of France concerning the marriage of the Palatine to this Princess, and to interest himself in the negotiations as far as occasion allows or necessity dictates. The Marshal has very fruitfully carried out these instructions in all their details, and has received sound, good and practical replies. He showed that during the King's minority the Queen of France was bound to seek peace with Spain by means of marriages. He pointed out that these marriages of children are nominal rather than actual. The Princess will not go to Spain, nor the Infanta to France for three or four years, and then the King will be fourteen and by the constitution will have attained his majority and be master of himself and his Crown. He pointed out that if France were acting on any other principle than that of gaining time she would be running counter to all maxims of State, nor was it conceivable that she should seek the aggrandisement of Spain, which would mean the abasement of herself. He promised that if Spain took up arms against England France would come to her defence, and concluded that every security would be given for this pledge by drawing together in a still closer alliance with any conditions which the King might be pleased to require. The position of France on the death of the late King rendered it desirable to negotiate, and then conclude a match with Spain, especially as all honour had been shown to this Crown by the offer of the eldest Princess to the Prince, an offer to which no attention was paid ; nay ! his Majesty had opened negotiations in Spain. The Marshal then insisted on the need to keep the Protestant Princes together, and to stand well with the Dutch, dropping any ill feeling which the affair of Vorstius might

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have produced. He made promises that in one way or another the debt due from France to England would soon be discharged. From de Bouillon's negotiations we gather that he had two objects, one to quiet the King, the other to please the Protestant Princes by friendly offices. As to the King this Embassy has been most successful; it would have been impossible to find a person more agreeable to his Majesty or who could have spoken with greater weight. The King replied that he would always live in harmony with France, provided she did so with him; that the rumours flying about to the effect that the matches with Spain implied still closer bonds had caused him to look to his own affairs and to have recourse to the steps which appear to him most opportune. He complained openly of Villeroy and the Chancellor. The former, he declared, had for long been hostile to England and far too friendly to Spain and Rome, considering that he was the minister of a great sovreign. As to the Princes of Germany and the States he showed that he appreciated the observations of de Bouillon; he touched on Vorstius, and displayed a particular liking for the Marshal.

The Queen remarked to one of the leading personages of de Bouillon's suite that she would prefer a Princess of France without a dower to a Florentine Princess with any amount of gold they might offer. As to the marriage with the Palatine, the Marshal has done wonders, and in company with the Count of Hanau and M. de Plessen, he has overcome many difficulties and concluded the business subject to the Princess' pleasure, who wishes first to see the Palatine and to be wooed a while. He will be here in a couple of months, and will stay the whole winter. The Marshal left for France the day before yesterday. He was accompanied to the port, which is three days' journey from here, by the Master of the Ceremonies and other gentlemen in the royal carriages. He received a gilded side-board of eight thousand ounces, most richly wrought, and a diamond set in a ring of other large diamonds as a jewel from the Queen, besides other gifts and favours. He frequently dined with the King in public and private in the city and outside, always lodged and boarded at the King's charges. The King took pleasure in his conversation and frequently sent for him without the Lieger. He left without being visited by the Spanish Ambassador on account of his refusal to be separated from the Lieger. The Spaniard when visiting me complained that de Bouillon had passed his word to the Flemish Ambassador that he would receive the Spanish Ambassador alone, and had then changed his mind. The quarrel between these Ambassadors grows bitterer daily; each of them confides in me, and I keep in good relations with all of them. De Bouillon came to take his leave of me and I went to wish him a good journey the evening before he left. It would have been impossible to do more than he has done in the time; he never let an hour pass without conducting business and that with equal prudence and good fortune. On his arrival he visited your Excellencies' Embassy immediately after being at Court, and it was the last house he called at before his departure. This he said he had done on purpose to show the esteem in which the Republic is held; and if any one ventured to disturb your Excellencies France would come to your aid as

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vigorously as the late King would have done. I was to write this. *In taking my leave of the Marshal he said he had not had an answer yet about the Ambassador in the Grisons. I dwelt on the importance of the matter.*

In spite of all that de Bouillon did here in favour of the Dutch and the German Princes the States especially are suspicious, and still believe that Spain will leave France alone in order to take advantage elsewhere; until the terms of the contract are published these suspicions will continue but diminished. Villeroy declares that there are no clauses of a treaty signed; when they are signed they will be shown to the Dutch Ambassador. The Palatine's Agents, having effected their object, will soon depart.

London, 31st May, 1612.

[*Italian*; *the part in italics deciphered.*]

June 1. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

540. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

His Majesty's Ambassador to the States has first told Count Maurice of the King's resolve to make him a Knight of the Garter, and then, on the seventh, he informed the States General. He said that the King, to show his love and esteem for those provinces, had resolved to bestow this order on Count Maurice. The late Queen sent it to the King of France, and when his Majesty came from Scotland he sent it to his brother-in-law the King of Denmark as he sent it now to the States, which, however, being a large body could not actually receive it and so, out of regard for them, he proposed to bestow it on Count Maurice, their Captain-General, who by so many and such brilliant victories had achieved for them their freedom. On the 14th the States returned thanks, and said that it would be as well to know whether in the oath which the knights took there was any clause which might be repugnant to Count Maurice's duties. On Thursday the 24th of last month, the Ambassador of the States had audience of the King and kissed his hand for the favour; then he gently touched on the doubt that had arisen. The King replied that there was no oath, that all the others had accepted without saying a word, that the Count after entering the order would be as free as he is now to fulfil his duties. The Ambassador then handed the King some papers Vorstius had printed in his defence. His Majesty then remarked that the Duke de Boullion had told him that the States had undertaken to pay the amount due from France to the Crown of England. The Ambassador said he had never heard of it, and in fact it could not be so, for he had letters of the 18th in which no mention was made of that subject. The Ambassador then went to de Boullion, who told him that Villeroy had advised him that one might say the States were resolved to assume the debt, for only one or two Provinces were still undecided.

I have letters from Germany and Holland; they have begun to receive despatches from their Ambassador in Constantinople. The Admiral of Holland has returned with his whole fleet. He made a long report to the Assembly, setting forth all his operations. He has great praise for the courtesy received in Lisbon and other Spanish ports.

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The French Ambassador (Refuges) has not yet received a definite answer, but expects it daily. The Ambassador of the States in Paris writes to the Dutch Ambassador here that he has never been able to obtain a promise that they would continue to pay the infantry and the cavalry. On Tuesday the second son of the Duke of Modena was here. I sent the next day to invite him to take up his abode in this house, which he did three days ago. He has brought letters from the Queen of France for the King and the French Ambassador, who has visited him, as has also the Spanish Ambassador by means of his Secretary; the others will do likewise. In two or three days he will see the King, then the Queen, the Prince, the Princess and the Duke of York. Honours and favours will not be wanting for him from the Royal Household. He is a youth of about twenty years old, of sound sense and a handsome presence; he thinks of going to Flanders and thence to the Imperial Diet. His departure from Modena was taken on the advice of a certain Count Ludovico, his governor, who gradually brought him to it; and I think I see clearly that it all comes from a very high source, though appearances are against such a supposition. At Paris he received a considerable quantity of money from the Duke his father. He spoke to me about a sentence passed by the late Emperor in favour of Modenese claims on Comacchio, and his journey to Germany may have something to do with this. I have thought it to be to your Excellencies' interests to make this Prince come here and to secure him a good reception at Court and from others, so as to bind his father to you, as Spain is endeavouring to do the same by the favours she showed to the Ambassador of Mantua and to others.

To-day week I will give you a detailed account of certain events. As the post is now leaving I must close this, merely adding that the Earl of Salisbury has been at death's door for two days but has rallied a little. The Court has been in mouring a few days for the death of the Queen of Denmark.

London, first of June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 2. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

541. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Lotti is returned from England. He was warmly welcomed and at once received the gift of a golden chain worth four hundred crowns. This is taken as a sign of good news about the match; others say it is a reward for good service in those parts. He is to return there and meantime Chioli remains.

Florence, 2nd June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 3. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

542. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

It seems that there is a real desire both on the part of the Duke and of the King of England to become close allies, be it by marriage or by other means. The guiding reason is the need to

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restore the balance of power, which has been upset by the Franco-Spanish matches.

Wotton sent his nephew to England on Monday last, to explain the situation to the King. He promises to be back in twenty-four days. Wotton says he will not await his return, but that is supposed to be intended to convince people that his nephew's mission is not of importance. The Duke, however, will move cautiously, nor will he commit himself until he is sure of what he can promise himself from England, so as to avoid waking the suspicions of France and Spain. Wotton advises the Duke to employ the good offices of the King of Spain, who, he says, is omnipotent. Thus the English appear to be alternately suspicious of and confident of Spain. Wotton, on his Sovreign's orders, is to return *via* Germany, to be present at the Electoral Diet.

Turin, 3rd June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 3.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

543. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Besides his nephew Wotton sent off post to England, the day before yesterday, Baron Rich, a great English gentleman. He has, as I understand, upwards of fifteen thousand pounds sterling of income, that is to say sixty thousand ducats. He came in the suite of the Ambassador, and his sudden departure gives rise to observations. Some say he has been recalled to take command of ten thousand infantry to be sent to the aid of the King of Denmark. Others attribute his departure to a quarrel with the Ambassador over the extraordinary favours shown him by the Duke, which appeared to the Ambassador if not to surpass at least to equal those shown to his Excellency. As Lord Rich and also some others of Wotton's suite are good Catholics, they visited these Churches daily and especially the Consolata, even twice a day, which gave the Ambassador the opportunity to break with him. Whatever be the cause, Lord Rich is gone. It is more likely that he has really left on business, and that a quarrel is put forward as a blind to prevent people attaching importance to these frequent despatches. On Thursday, Ascension Day, Lord Rich was invited to Chapel, and after Chapel to dinner with the Duke, who engaged him in long discourse, and at his taking leave presented him with a beautiful Spanish horse worth a thousand crowns. On his return to his lodging, intending to mount and be off, he found to his surprise that his trunks had been forced and a thousand dobloons in cash and a bill for one thousand five hundred more had been stolen. A lacquey was accused of it, but there were not wanting those who said this was the Ambassador's doing to prevent Lord Rich from starting for England. The truth must soon come to light.

Turin, 3rd June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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June 4.
Consiglio de' Dieci. Parti Communi. Venetian Archives.

544. To the AMBASSADOR in England.

As your Secretary Scaramelli has left the Embassy and separated himself from you and behaved so badly, you will order him to return here at once and present himself to the Chiefs of the Ten. We have appointed Guilio Muscorno to fill his place. He is to leave in eight days.

Ayes	17.
Noes	0.
Neutrals	0.

[*Italian.*]

June 6.
Senato, Secreta. Communicate Venetian Archives.

545. That the despatches from the Ambassador in England of the 18th May, on the subject of precedence, be sent to the Cabinet in order that the necessary steps may be taken in the Senate.

[*Italian.*]

June 6.
Consiglio de' Dieci. Parti Secrete. Venetian Archives.

546. That the despatch of the Ambassador in England, dated May 18th, on the subject of precedence, be sent to the Cabinet that it may take suitable action.

Ayes	15.
Noes	0.
Neutrals	0.

[*Italian.*]

June 7.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

547. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Sunday, the 3rd of this month, I had audience of the King. *I sought it on purpose to find out precisely what his Majesty knows about the rumoured confederation between the Pope, the King of France, the King of Spain, and the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and so cautiously and dexterously to carry out my orders.* I foresaw that a prolonged silence as regards the favour recently shown to him who represents your Excellencies, would not be pleasing to the King. I began by saying "Sire, I am charged by the Serene Republic to say two things, one is most cordial thanks for the honour done her by your Majesty in treating her Ambassador on a par with those of Crowned Heads and in promising not to show the same deference to any others unless they can produce the same proofs of their right. The second point is to assure your Majesty that you may count upon the Republic in all circumstances." The King listened to me with extreme satisfaction, which was visible in his countenance and in his movements by which he expressed his approval. Then after a pause I went on "Sire, the audiences of the Ambassadors of the Republic will always be of this nature, they will always contain matter pleasing to your Majesty whose goodness exactly suits the Republic whose sole object is to preserve herself intact." The King expressed his satisfaction at what had been done in favour of your Excellencies. He spoke of your Serenity's indisposition and wished you many years of life. He then touched on the action of the French

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Ambassador in the Grisons, and said it must be due to the influence of the King of Spain. He went on to say that Queen of France was Spanish with Spain, a Huguenot with himself, and attached to the Dutch, and also to the Archduke and the Protestant Princes, in fact, she desires to be on good terms with everybody. He blamed this policy and said that she would have done better to preserve as allies the friends of her late husband instead of filling them with greater suspicions by treating all alike. The Duke of Bouillon had made the lamest of excuses for the Spanish matches. "What do you think it was?" said the King, "why, that as Spain had made the proposals she might have made their refusal a *casus belli*." The Duke had done all he could to show that the Spanish alliance was in appearence rather than in fact; only of brief endurance, and that nothing hostile to England or her allies had been mentioned. The King had answered that he did not doubt that the Duke believed what he was saying, but the person who desired to hoodwink the King had first hoodwinked the Ambassador; and as it was the King of Spain and Villeroy alone who had negotiated the match they alone will also have inserted some secret clauses which they will publish when it suits them. The Duke denied this and offered every guarantee and satisfaction. *I then seized the opportunity and asked if it was true that France, Spain, the Pope and the Grand Duke were allied. He said he had no more certain information than a rumour to that effect; that France and Spain might quite well enter into an alliance without his knowing it, just as he might enter into an alliance without their knowing it. The Marshal had presented him with a signed declaration that no such thing had taken place nor ever would take place. The Duke de Bouillon had urged the King to invite the Queen of France to enter the Union of the Protestant Princes, the Dutch and England declaring that she would consent and charging himself with the negotiations. The King asked me if I had any details. He then enquired how the Republic stood with the Pope and touched on the question of Goro, which I explained. I told him your Excellencies were entirely inclined to quiet and so, we hoped, was the Pope. The King declared his willingness to assist if it should be necessary. He praised the pacific policy of the Republic and used these very words, "We do not want to take any man's possessions but only to defend our own. By God there is no one can blame us." From all this I seem to gather that his Majesty does not really know anything further about this confederation; that he is not alarmed about it, and thinks he has dealt a great blow by means of the Union; that he is very ready to draw close to his friends; that he has a good opinion of de Bouillon but thinks he may have been duped; that he has the worst opinion of the two Ministers who govern France; that he is anxious to hear what effect de Bouillon has on the Queen on his return to France; and that he sets some store by the paper left with him.*

The King highly praised his Ambassador at your Serenity's Court and declared his satisfaction with him. I supported and emphasised all that was said, for the Ambassador merits it; he always makes most excellent representations. If you only knew the terms in which his Majesty speaks of him you would fully understand how pleased he would be if this Ambassador were caressed and favoured, which would certainly prove to be to your

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Serenity's service. The King then mentioned Wotton and remarked that your Excellencies have had two Ambassadors whose ability he recognised. On taking my leave I said to the King that there was a Prince of Modena staying in the Embassy, and I remarked that the Duke his father was like a son to your Serenity, as indeed were all the Princes of Italy; and so it was through your Serenity that he should kiss his Majesty's hand and offer him the service of himself of his father and of his house. The King replied that he would be glad to see him for himself, and still more so for his attachment to your Serenity.

London, 7th June, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

June 8. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

548. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Soon after my return from audience, the Master of the Ceremonies came to the Embassy in the King's name to visit the second son of the Duke of Modena, and to say that the following morning his Majesty desired to embrace him and would send carriages to convey him, as happened. I did not omit to cause him to be attended by my suite, my carriages and others besides, and so he appeared at Court as becomes a guest of your Serenity's Embassy. The King received him very graciously, and he presented the compliments of the Duke, his father, and also his own. He was brought back again in the same carriages, accompanied by Baron Burleigh, who, along with some other gentlemen, remained to dine here. The next day the King sent as a present to him and to your Ambassador a deer, and a message, delivered by a Scottish gentleman of rank, that his Majesty invited us to the chase any day that suited us best. We returned thanks and said we would receive that honour on the day that pleased his Majesty. The day before yesterday the Prince appointed an audience, which had to be put off till the Queen had been visited. She is to send her carriages here at two in the afternoon. After seeing the Queen the Prince of Modena will visit the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York and the Princess if he has time. During these days the Chamberlain, the Master of the Ceremonies and many other gentlemen have honoured this house. The Spanish Ambassador has visited the Prince of Modena, and has invited him to dine as well as myself. The Ambassador laid himself out in many promises, gave him the title of Excellence, told him he must visit Spain, assuring him that he would be very well satisfied. Thus does this Envoy actively serve his Master and endeavour to bind them all to him, so that your Serenity's Minister must not fall short either. I treat this Prince in such fashion that there can be no doubt that on his return his father will be much indebted to your Excellencies, for he receives extraordinary honours from their Majesties and the Prince, and he knows from which quarter they come. In this house he is treated as is becoming. The Count of Hanau and M. de Plessen, Ambassadors of the Palatine, have visited him and made many offers which he values as he is going to Germany. He will stay some days longer, as he wishes to see

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the King's Palace in the country and various things in the City, to pay a number of visits and then to take his leave of the Royal Family. He has written to his father and I enclose the letters, begging your Serenity to see them safely and speedily forwarded. *I hope that your Excellencies will be able to count on this Prince, and if you think it to your service you might engage him by granting him a pension on condition that his father allowed your Serenity to raise five or six thousand infantry in his States at your slightest sign; that would be a fine stroke. The State of Modena is full of warlike people and close to your territory.*

The Earl of Salisbury is dead. The King is greatly disturbed by this severe loss and all the Court shows striking grief. It is not known who will succeed him in his offices, though it is certain that they will be divided, and there is not a single man who has the ability to carry such a weight as he did. Rumour says he has left only twenty thousand crowns revenue burdened by two hundred crowns of debt.* The death of this great Minister must inevitably be unfortunate for your Serenity's service, for he showed a sincere and particular devotion to your interests, and great kindness to him who serves you. He drew a marked distinction between friends and friends. He nourished the ideas that flourished in the time of the late Queen, and in sooth your Serenity's loss is heavy. There remains, however, this consolation that in the King and Prince the determination to be united in bonds of affection to your Serenity lives in ineradicable strength. For me I shall feel acutely the need to deal with a new Minister—one does not know as yet who it is to be; it will take months to win his regard and may be I will never get so far forward as I did in the affection of Lord Salisbury, from whom I always received favours and obtained whatever I desired—a gentle confidence in regard to your Excellencies.

The King has sent two Scotch gentlemen, one to Denmark the other to Sweden, to negotitate a peace between the two Kings. The King of Sweden, who ran that danger which I reported, is alive, but injured in the arms and legs, which are all but dislocated, and this owing to the cold and the great blocks of ice that damaged him, so that in undressing him and especially in taking off his boots, which they had to cut, pieces of his flesh fell off. It is thought now that peace is certain, and the King said to Lord Willoughby who left a few days ago with the remainder of the reinforcements for Denmark, that he thought he would arrive when peace was concluded or on the point to be so.

The Palatine's Ambassadors, after signing the terms of the marriage contract, left the day before yesterday and take the road to Holland to negotiate about the Confederation. Two points remain before the marriage can be carried out. First, the Princess' consent, for she wishes to see him first and to be courted. The other is that as the Ambassadors exceeded their instructions further guarantees for the observance of the treaty are required.

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., June 25. "In his last letter to the King, in which he recommended Sir Henry Wotton, he vowed that he was £100,000 poorer than when he entered the Treasury."

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A Council sat on the suggestion that an Ambassador should be sent, on the pretext of visiting the Italian Princes, to negotiate a match with the Grand Duke; but as the majority were hostile nothing will be done. It is known that on the 8th the Secretary Lotti was at Lyons; he is expected on the 16th at Florence. News was expected from him and as it has not arrived displeasure is felt and those who were favourable are now less inclined and those who were opposed make themselves heard.

London, 8th June, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

June 9. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

549. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Secretary Lotti is still here, but will soon be sent back again. Continual prayers are being offered up for the success of these matches; but there is a serious obstacle in the way of the English match, which is perhaps the furthest forward, the question of the exercise of the Catholic Rite, which the King will grant to the Princess only in her rooms in the Palace, and a still graver difficulty is the question of the education of children; the King desires them to be brought up in his faith, while the Pope absolutely refuses his assent to the match except on an assurance here that the offspring will be brought up in the Catholic Faith. I hear that Don Giovanni de' Medici has been summoned from his villa with a view to sending him to Rome and also to England, to examine and arrange the difficulty. He has had frequent secret audiences of Madam at the Palace but I do not know their purport. He returned to his villa two days ago. There is another difficulty which is causing trouble in this English match. The King is in need of money and demands at least five hundred thousand crowns of dower, whereas here they do not wish to overstep the three hundred thousand left by the will of the Grand Duke Ferdinand. (*Vi è ancora un' altra difficoltà che da travaglio in questo parentato con Inghilterra, so che quel Rè che ha bisogno di denari, dimanda almeno* $\frac{m}{500}$ *scudi per la dote, et qui non vorrebbono passare li* $\frac{m}{300}$ *lasciati per testamento del G. Duca Ferdinando.*)

Firuze, 9th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 9. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

550. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

I have observed that the Florentine Secretary is in long and frequent secret discourse with the English Ambassador, the sole subject being the project of marriage between a Tuscan Princess and the Prince of Wales.

Besides the compliments which Don Pedro de Zuñiga is to convey to England he is also charged to gather clear information about the North-West passage, *and to endeavour to break up the design.*

Madrid, 9th June, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

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June 10.
Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

551. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of Great Britain insists on taking his leave. His demand is so pressing that it cannot be a ruse. He will leave in five or six days. The Duke has already prepared a present of jewels, bought in Milan for fifteen thousand crowns. The Duke is overstepping his means. I am told that between Ruffia's double mission, the presents to the King and Wotton's visit, he has spent close on one hundred thousand crowns. On Thursday the Duke, Prince Victor, and Prince Thomas invited Wotton to dine at that delicious place, Mirafiore, two miles out of Turin. He was entertained with sweet music. He stayed till evening, and then returned to Turin. Every day he visits one or other of these suburban places, where he is entertained at the chase and the dance. Yesterday evening the Secretary of the Count Cartignana (Ruffia) told me that the Ambassador's Secretary, who is the same as he had in Venice, is to remain here in Cartignana's house, on the Duke's orders. But as Cartignana had dismissed his household, intending on Wotton's departure to retire into the country, the Duke assigned him the house of Dr. Busca, near the Castle, where he can be conveniently lodged.

I have tried to find out what route the Ambassador will take and whether he will go to Venice as reported. I am assured he will go by Milan, Trent, Basel and down the Rhine. He chooses this route in order to avoid France, and also to please the gentlemen of his suite who have come out solely to see the world. His hurry to be off induces some to think he has a mission to some German Prince. All negotiations for alliance or marriage are dead. Everything is suspended till the return of Wotton's nephew, in whose company is Signor Fulvio Pergamo, of Asti, on the Duke's orders. He is well acquainted with England, as he was Secretary to Count Ruffia's missions. Pergamo takes with him the portraits of the Princesses to show to the King and the Prince. Also a considerable number of gold piasters of ten crowns each, to be given to a certain Gioan Marco, a Genoese, sometime musician to the Duke and now to the Queen of England, so that he may continue to furnish news from that Kingdom.

The Duke is much put out by Wotton's assertion that the offices of the King of Spain are essential for the effectuation of an Anglo-Savoyard match. He cannot understand why the King of England should be so complaisant to the King of Spain. The Duke could not conceal from Wotton certain signs of his disgust; declaring they could not see the necessity to take Spaniards as intermediaries in the match. Wotton who saw he had awakened suspicion did all he could to allay it, declaring that his Master never dreamed of treating in other than loyal and sincere fashion, that he had never intended that Spain should act as mediator, only that as the question was about the marriage of the King of Spain's niece it was necessary to consult him. The Duke appeared somewhat satisfied.

Turin, 10th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
June 12.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

552. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

On the 5th de Bouillon returned from England. He visited the English Ambassador, who is ill. To-morrow he leaves for Fontainebleau. He gives a grand account of the honours bestowed on him, and since his return the rumours of a matrimonial alliance between the elder Princess of France and the Prince of Wales are greatly revived. The Huguenots are disgusted and very angry with de Bouillon. The more he loses with them the more he gains with the Queen, who has given him a beautiful house in Paris.

The day before yesterday a gentleman in the suite of Sir Henry Wotton passed through express from Turin to England. It seems absurd of him to have said that negotiations for that match are going forward when on all sides one hears that the match with the Palatine is completed.

Paris, 12th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 14.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

553. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The day before yesterday a nephew of Sir Henry Wotton was here with letters of the last day of last month. He had been stayed four days at Dieppe on account of the wind; he made the land journey in a little more than nine days, which is very quick travelling. I have not seen him yet, but I hear that the Ambassador has had long secret audiences with the Duke, who has sent an Agent (Pergamo) here in company with the Ambassador's nephew.

There are very recent letters from Spain with news that Don Pedro de Zuñiga is coming with a mission to speak about the Princess for his Catholic Majesty should he find an inclination that way. At Brussels they hope that this will be so gratifying here that it will interrupt any resolution that has been taken. The truth is that the match with the Palatine is concluded and approaching effectuation. The Elector is to be in Holland early in August and here soon after for this very purpose. These arrangements can hardly be changed or altered, as they were made to suit the King's pleasure. With Spain there would be many difficulties, and, in the opinion of those who know, quite insuperable. The Bishops are vigorously opposed to any treaty for a marriage between the Prince of Wales and the second sister of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, an idea which is thwarted from all sides and fades away more and more. General Cecil, who supported it after the death of the Earl of Salisbury, is fallen from power. I know from a sure source that the Prince's Chamberlain frankly told the Florentine Secretary that if they could not come to some accommodation on the question of religion, such for instance, that the Grand Duke's sister should enjoy freedom of conscience and should not be compelled to communicate according to the Anglican rite, but should only appear in public to belong to it, there was no hope of carrying the negotiations to a conclusion. The Chamberlain cited precedents. The Secretary said he must await the orders which will arrive after

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Lotti has reached Florence; nothing could be said save that the decision lay with the Grand Duke. Recently when discussing with the Florentine Secretary the subject of the Franco-Spanish matches, he told me that ten months ago an agreement was drawn up in writing between the two Courts, and one may say that from that date the matches were virtually concluded. They were only published some months later. The negotiations had been going on for long, and had encountered many difficulties, chiefly on the side of France, owing to the dread lest the Princes of the blood should prove hostile, Savoy be annoyed, and the Protestant Princes suspicious. The idea that the Infanta should renounce her rights to the succession was most repugnant, and it was even proposed that the Salic law should be suspended, once in a way, but the difficulties were insuperable. They also discussed the date when the brides were to go to their husbands, and it was settled that they should go at twelve years of age. The marriage of the King will take place in France, of the Prince, in Spain. The Spanish were always ready for this match. The Secretary appeared to think that the marriages would not alter the position of affairs, for it was impossible that the two Crowns should assist, or even abstain from thwarting, the aggrandisement of each other.

The King applies himself to business assiduously since the death of Salisbury, thus following his advice before he left for the Bath, namely, that his Majesty should conduct business himself, and not entrust it to the hands of a single man, or even to two, but rather to employ the whole Council. The Lord Treasurership is not yet filled up, and it seems that the King is thinking of putting it into Commission among four Ministers, Pembroke, Northampton, Rochester and Sir Julius Cæsar, who at the present fills the post. He is also thinking of dividing the office of first Secretary. Lord Wotton greatly regrets that Sir Henry, his brother, is absent in Savoy, as he might now hit the mark, and become one of the two Secretaries who will be named to fill Lord Salisbury's place. No decision has been reached, and for the present his Majesty himself superintends all; applying himself courageously and indefatigably to business. If Sir Henry Wotton did become Secretary it would be of great service to your Excellencies.

London, 14th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 15. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

554. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The same day as I sent my last despatch the Queen's carriages came to convey the Prince of Modena to audience. The Queen received him very graciously. He then paid his respects to the Princess, as the Prince had that day gone hunting. The day following he saw the Prince and the Duke of York. The Prince's Chamberlain told me that his Highness would like to see the Prince of Modena at Richmond, whither he went the day before yesterday. Yesterday he went hunting with the King, and although I too received an invitation I let him go alone so as not

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to rob him of any of the honour, but the moment the King saw I was not there he sent to tell me to come at once. I told his Majesty that I had come to receive his commands and to thank him for the favour. On going out to hunt the King, with whom I was, laid his hand on the Prince's shoulder, who bowed low and said that he was for ever his Majesty's most humble servant, and begged his Majesty to receive his father and all his house in the like degree. The King replied with these very words: "You will find as much friendship here as at Venice, for the Republic and ourselves are so closely bound together that we shall never separate, and it is, therefore, natural that we should have our friends in common and our interests identical. You and your father the Duke may therefore promise yourselves from us all that you would have from Venice." At this the King looked at me as if inviting me to confirm, so I said that the Princes of Italy were all sons of your Serenity, and so much was the Duke of Modena beloved that he was worthy to be his Majesty's servant. With that the King and I passed on ahead, and the Prince fell behind and walked with the Duke of Lennox. It is quite clear that this Court attaches great importance to your Excellencies, and the Prince recognises the honours that are done him as due to your Serenity. Last week he reported to the Duke, to the Prince and to the Cardinal, all by means of a certain Cavaliere Cortese. He came by way of Provence on purpose to meet the Duke of Guise, a relation, and to avail himself of his means to introduce him to the service of the Queen of France, and so to make a career, as he has five brothers and three nephews. At Paris for some days the house of Lorraine supported him, but when they found he intended to stay in France they were opposed to any further difusion of the Queen's bounty. She, however, welcomed him kindly, and engaged him for a certain period, and advised him to see Flanders, England, Germany. But the answer was of a nature to induce him to look elsewhere. He would like to serve your Excellencies, and being the favourite son of his father it might be possible to obtain leave to raise four or five thousand infantry in his territory. He told me he would on his return to Modena lay this idea before the Duke.

Yesterday the King talked of little else than the chace, as is usual when he is in the country.

London, 15th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 15. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

555. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Along with Sir Henry Wotton's nephew and the gentleman of the Duke of Savoy there arrived here Lord Rich from Turin. The Ambassador's nephew went straight to the King, to whom he gave letters in which Wotton writes "the favours received at this Court, the nature of these Princes and the Duke's devotion to your Majesty you will learn from the lips of my nephew." He then goes on to give an account of his actions and of the replies made by his Highness, and says that as he is on the point of departure

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he will keep all in his breast till his return; the Duke begs the King to delay deciding about the marriage till he has heard the Duke's proposals. At first sight the Duke is not entirely satisfied, it seems, though he tried to appear so. He did not conceal the fact that there would be much to answer, only he desired to conform his conduct to his Majesty's taste. He then put forward other proposals such as the Princess Maria for the Prince; the despatch of an express was intended chiefly to cut across the Grand Duke's negotiations. The Duke's agent brings the portrait of the Princess Maria, of her other sister, of the Prince, of the Duke and of the late Duchess, the Infanta; he is lodged and boarded at the King's charges and his Majesty has lent a gracious ear. This in short is all that I have been able to find out these two days in which I have given my mind and my attention to it. Sir Henry Wotton will be here in twelve or fifteen days; he will bring more than one proposal. After he has seen the King I will do all I can to find out what has taken place, and by the help of God your Excellencies shall be duly informed, although, of course, thanks to the Ambassador Gussoni's diligence you must by now know all about it.

To-day the French Ambassador has sent his Secretary in haste to his Sovereign, and he ought to be back in six days. I will endeavour to find out the cause of this and hope to explain it this day week.

London, 15th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 16. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

556. Giacomo Vendramin, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Giovanni de' Medici has returned from his villa to the town, and has long interviews with Madama. They say he is to go to Rome and England; it is also rumoured that Baron Coloredo will go to England. But one can say nothing positive.

Florence, 16th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 17. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

557. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

When the Duke was assured of the resolute determination of the English Ambassador to stay no longer at this Court, his Highness prepared to grant him the congè he had so frequently sought. And so on Whit Monday the Duke invited the Ambassador to dine with him in public here in Turin; and after a long conversation which turned upon agreeable subjects rather than on business, he invited Wotton to be present at a tilting match (*correre al Fachino*) in the Piazza Castello. It was a fine sight, both for the number of gentlemen of the Court who took a part in it, and especially for the presence of the Princes Victor and Thomas and the Duke of Nemours, who took especial pains to excel the rest. It was an easy matter, however, to award the prize, for Prince Victor far surpassed the others, to the marvel not only of the Ambassador but

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of all who were looking on. The Princesses, although a balcony had been prepared for them looking over the Piazza, chose to attend in their carriages with their suites, and either by chance or on purpose their carriages was drawn up opposite the carriage of the Ambassador, who had leisure to observe them during the whole time of the joust.

The next day Wotton took his leave of his Highness, of the Princes and Princesses, and received from the Duke a most lovely jewel; all his suite and his officials also received presents, the suite jewels, the officials chains worth two hundred crowns a piece. Wotton left on Wednesday, escorted by the guard, and in the Ducal carriages which took him as far as Milan. His Secretary accompanied him for a bit, and is to return here. What astonished me was that Wotton did not pay me a farewell visit as is the custom. He had pledged himself to do so, and seeing him depart without a word, perplexes me as to what can be the reason. If his Secretary returns I have determined to touch on this point cautiously, so as to see what excuse he offers for his Chief.

Turin, 17th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 18. Consiglio de' Dieci. Parti Secrete. Venetian Archives.

558. That to gratify the English Ambassador the safe-conduct, granted for five years on the 5th April, 1607, to Hieronimo Monte who on the 27th June, 1605, was banished in perpetuity from our State on pain of death and under the condition that he could not be absolved under ten years, be now extended for three years more.

Ayes	6.	Second vote	Ayes	6.
Noes	1.		Noes	0.
Neutrals	3.		Neutrals	3.

Not carried.

[*Italian.*]

June 24. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

559. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Wotton's Secretary, William Parkhurst (*Parco*), has returned. He called on me and without a word from me offered his master's apologies for not having waited on me before his departure. He said he had not intended to leave that day, but had to do so suddenly; in fact he admitted the error, and strove to cover it as well as he could, but had nothing really to say. I said I regretted that such an incident should have arisen between the representatives of two friendly powers, giving occasion to remarks. Wotton's nephew is not to return here. The Secretary will stay on to wind up affairs here, as Pergamo will do in England. He admits that it is true that there are negotiations for the marriage of one of these Princesses to the Prince of Wales, and the negotiations for a league he does not deny. But I could not bring him down to particulars. Of your Serenity he spoke in such terms as showed that in England they desired rather than expected a union; he professed astonishment that when all other powers were procuring alliances your

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Serenity alone remained in your wonted neutrality. He went on to praise the Dutch, who, he said, desired a closer union with your Serenity, and they especially desired that both your Serenity and they should keep Ambassadors at the respective Courts. He urged that at a pinch no power could more effectually assist the Serene Republic, as the Dutch always had a large number of ships inside the Straits, and by a simple order to them to join the Venetian fleet they could greatly assist the position of the State. He added that his Master had caused his Ambassador in Venice to touch on this point, but the Nuncio and some other Envoy were the reason why nothing had been carried through. He told me that on the Duke's orders Wotton had been received in Asti by the governors, who had given a review of the troops, which number in reality two thousand, though called two thousand three hundred. Wotton is going to Frankfort viâ Basel. At Frankfort he will stay some weeks to see whether, after the Imperial election, they will proceed to elect the King of the Romans.

Turin, 24th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 26. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

560. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

De Bouillon went last week to Fontainebleau. They have made public his report of the honour bestowed on him, but kept secret the account he gave of his negotiations. It seems, however, that it has not given satisfaction. The King of England on receiving de Bouillon's justification of the Franco-Spanish matches displayed nervous irritability. The English Ambassador here went soon after to Court to mark the result, and to conclude the affair of the Scottish soldiers of the Guard. On the 22nd Don Pedro de Zuñiga, Ambassador Extraordinary to England, was here.

Paris, 26th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 27. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

561. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I acknowledge, with due reverence, the receipt of despatches with orders to insist upon just precedence, but gently so as not to give rise to the necessity of adducing proof. I wish to say that my letter to the Earl of Salisbury setting forth my claim, stated things so patent that no further proofs were required than the mere opening of the eyes. It is as well that the letter is in existence as it is the basis of the claim, and sets forth not only your Excellencies' rank but also the fact that no other Princes nor Crowned Heads enjoy a similar rank and that is very important. I was in doubt as to whether I should present your Serenity's letter to his Majesty, especially as it was left to my judgement, and there was no word in it about thanks for the promise that no one else should be treated in this way until he had proved as much as I have proved. However I did present it at my audience of Monday the 18th, and added words of

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thanks. The King took the letter, withdrew a little and read it; then he returned with a cheerful countenance and said "Yes, you are right, the letter speaks in these terms, and I am glad I was able to grant this favour." To this I replied merely with a bow, waiting a more favourable opportunity which I knew would not fail me when at the chase, for which everything was now ready. After going downstairs with his Majesty he caused me to be seated next him in the carriage, with the Prince of Modena and the Duke of Lennox opposite. The King chased the roe-deer for at least four hours on end, in perpetual movement. When it was over the King dismounted and was pleased to drink to my good-hunting. I took the opportunity as we were returning to the carriage to say "Sire, in the reply which your Majesty will send to the letters of my Masters, I beseech you to touch on two points, one is the honour done them in treating their Ambassador on a par with the Envoys of Crowned Heads, the other is that no one else will be so treated until they can establish a like pre-eminence of royal rank such as I have demonstrated on behalf of the Republic. I should esteem it a special favour from your Majesty; because as I have reported word for word your Majesty's remarks to me, I naturally desire that your Majesty's reply should confirm my report." The King told me to draw up a note on the two points, and he would give orders immediately. His Majesty desired me to wait on him again at the chase in the afternoon, and that over I took my leave and he went to Theobalds while I returned to London. I reminded him in the most gracious terms I could find about the two points to be included in his answer and he repeated that I was to send in a note thereon the next day, just a couple of words; he was coming to London and would see that it was done. He said he would be pleased to see me now anytime when it suited me, at the chase in the same informal way as to-day. For all of which I kissed his hands. The next day I sent to Sir Thomas Lake, in whose hands I knew that your Serenity's letters lay, begging him to receive me, so that I might press the matter *viva voce*, but as he only fills the post provisionally he excused himself; and so I, unable to do anything else, sent him the following words on a piece of paper: "The two points, which the King ordered the Ambassador to recall to his memory, are to confirm the favour shown to his Serenity in the person of his Ambassador, and the promise not to grant a like favour to any others until they have proved what the Ambassador has proved." Sir Thomas promised to speak to the King and to send a draft of the reply to your Serenity and to inform me of everything as I begged. On Friday the 22nd Mr. Edmondes,* Clerk to the Council, came to say on his Majesty's behalf that if I had business to conduct I was to apply to the Lord Chamberlain or to one of the Clerks of the Council, I therefore took the opportunity to explain to Edmondes what had taken place, and to say that the King had given me his word; I therefore begged that it should be put into effect in the reply to your Serenity, by the inclusion of the two

* Clement Edmondes, Clerk of the Council. *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1611-1618, p. 262.

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points. I said that since he was at my service I should be pleased to deal with him, and I begged him to so act with Sir Thomas Lake that the King's word should be kept. He promised to help me and said that as the matter was in good hands it would end well and quickly, as indeed happened the same day. I sent twice to Lake, the last time on Tuesday. The first time I was told that the answer had been sent to the English Ambassador with orders to present it in suitable terms; the second time they gave me the copy, which I send, though I am assured that the Ambassador will have already presented the original; I did not wish to report all this to your Excellencies until the reply had been sent, and I did not know about that until too late to catch the ordinary post. His Majesty's letter is an explicit reply to your Serenity's letter on the first point, the honour done by ranking your Ambassador on a par with Envoys of Crowned Heads; the second point, the promise not to grant this honour to others unless they prove a like right, is stated somewhat more concisely. During the Earl of Salisbury's life I would have had the courage to press for a clear statement; but even as it is your Excellencies have gained a great point. Only two writings have left my hands during the whole of this business, one was that brief note to Sir Thomas Lake recalling the points, which has proved useful, as it has induced a reference to the King's promise on the second head—this may have been set out more fully in the letter to your Serenity; the other was the answer to Lord Salisbury proving that at other Courts the Venetian Ambassador was treated on a par with the Envoys and Crowned Heads, while the Envoys of all other Princes were excluded. This is virtually the second point in his Majesty's reply.

I have thought it my duty to give a full account of all that I have done, and of the aims which I had in view. If in all this I have entirely fulfilled your Excellencies' wishes, I humbly thank God, only wishing that my abilities were equal to my desire.

London, 27th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Copy of the King's letter.

Enclosed in preceding Despatch.

562. James, King.

The honour done to your Republic is, we learn from your Ambassador, very gratifying to you.

Your Ambassador has proved the rank your Envoys hold at other Courts. We who desire the increase not the diminution of your honour have gladly conceded your Ambassador's request, although the favour is only granted to Ambassadors of Kings.

Westminster, 12th June, 1612.

[*Latin.*]

June 28. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

563. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Secretary sent to Paris by the French Ambassador had orders to deal with the debt due from France to England. The

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Ambassador is awaiting a courier whom Villeroy was to send off immediately on the arrival of de Bouillon. I am told by a person in whom I place faith that they are negotiating a match between the second French Princess and the second son of Spain, and that it is quite near to a conclusion. They are getting ready the Queen's Palace* here, where the Palatine is to be lodged when he comes in the autumn. The Duke of Savoy's Agent is still living at the King' charges; and over and above the offer of the Princess Maria's hand for the Prince made to Sir Henry Wotton by the Duke, *I hear that the Duke proposed a defensive alliance as a counter balance to the Franco-Spanish matches and alliance. My informant said that the Duke would very likely find an inclination in his Majesty either to conclude such an alliance or to cause the Duke to enter the league of Princes of which his Majesty is the head.* His Majesty intends to send Sir Henry Wotton's nephew back to meet him; with what orders I know not, nor indeed whether he has started.

The Ambassador extraordinary of Spain is expected here and the officials are getting his lodging ready, but as the King left yesterday and will not return, they say, before the Progress, which is to begin thirty days hence and to be through the County of Nottingham, one hundred miles away,—it is supposed that the Ambassador will have to go out to a more or less distance to find the King.

Recently at the discussion of various affairs the King required the Prince's presence; he will take him on Progress and the Council will also attend; a thing that has not happened recently owing to the feeblensss of the Earl of Salisbury. If this takes place I also propose to follow the King so as the better to serve your Excellencies, without any regard to the cost, which will be great, for it is my duty to spend my very blood in your service.

On Sunday, the 24th, the French Ambassador came to see me. He told me what M. Paschal, the French Ambassador to the Grisons, had done on the orders of Villeroy. He imagines that for the future Paschal will not act otherwise than in a friendly way; the confederation will remain active for a year longer, and all cause of friction between their most Christian Majesties and your Excellencies will be removed. I replied that it was to French interests to keep the federation alive; the late King attached great importance to it, and he was a sovreign so powerful, so revered, so admired, that he justly deserved the title of "Great." The Ambassador thereupon said he would use his best offices, and I promised the same on my side.

A gentleman from the Landgrave has been here some days. He comes to return thanks for favours shown to the Landgrave's son, and to present some horses to the Prince. He has also dropped a word about the Landgrave's daughter as a match for the Prince. He praises her beauty, and dwells upon the fact that it might be useful to have his Master and his State the devoted dependent of this Crown. The terms would be such as pleased the King and the Prince. But here they lend but little ear.

The Florentine Secretary continues to negotiate through General Cecil, but very feebly. He has recently given some bronze statues

* Somerset House.

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of great value to the Prince, and to the Queen a quantity of silk and gold webs. He told me he had news of Lotti from Genoa, and expects every moment to hear of his arrival in Florence.

It is held for certain that Parliament will meet in September, when the marriages of the Prince and Princess will be discussed; and certain points unsettled in the last Parliament, will be wound up. Meantime the King has given the Wardship of Minors to Carr, who was Ambassador in France.

News from Denmark that the King has made himself Master of Ellenborog Castle, where he has taken most of his troops, including the English.

Letters from the Hague and from Germany. They are pleased that the marriage of the Princess and the Palatine is settled, and thus they are freed from all suspicion that there might be a Spanish match. They have great hopes from this marriage and the confederation lately stipulated. The news from Denmark shows that the King is leaning towards peace; there is a dearth of money, and the Hanseatic towns are not favourable.

The King told me that the natives of Guinea are willing to obey this Crown.

London, 28th June, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

June 28. Original Despatch Venetian Archives.

564. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Monday week the second son of Modena took his leave of the King, having the same day had the honour to wait on the King before and after dinner. The King charged him to greet his father the Duke. On Saturday he took leave of the Prince at Richmond and then of the Duke of York, and the Princess on Sunday sent to present him with two beautiful mules. The Prince then returned the Ambassadors' visits and left the day before yesterday. He has been exceptionally honoured, and is duly grateful, so that the expense of feeding and lodging him for a whole month along with the six gentlemen and all the other servants in his train, will not be thrown away.

On Sunday the Chamberlain and four or five other leading gentlemen of the Queen's household came to dine here. In the Queen's name they wished him a good journey, as her Majesty, on account of a slight indisposition, was unable to receive him herself as she desired. He is leaving viâ Germany and may stay in Frankfort. When he reaches Modena he will speak to his father and brother and then communicate with me.

London, 28th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 30. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

565. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Baron Coloredo has reached Rome. He is sent to obtain the Pope's consent to the marriage of the Princess with the Prince of England, and to resolve theologically the difficulties that may

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arise owing to the different religions of the pair. Madama's confessor, Fra Centurione of the order of S. Augustine, a man of great erudition, has also been sent to his Holiness.

Florence, the last of June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

June 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

566. Tommaso Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

The Grand Duke has sent Baron Coloredo to express his satisfaction at the alliance which Don Virginio Orsini has contracted with his Holiness' family. Don Giovanni de' Medici is still here. He arrived late on Monday—but incognito and receiving no visits except from those with whom he has business, which is to secure the Pope's assent to the marriage of the second Princess of Tuscany to the Prince of Wales. At the Palace they say he will meet with opposition from the Pope; but on the other hand the arrival of Don Giovanni at the Court causes people to say that he has come on a *fait accompli*, and the delay is merely to satisfy the Pope's prestige. The question is referred to Cardinals Bellarmin and Molino.*

Don Virginio Orsini arrived on Sunday, but an attack of the gout kept him in bed. He has with him the Ambassador in ordinary and the Grand Duke's confessor, who are dealing with this English match.

The French Ambassador told me that the Dutch Ambassador at the Porte, besides his negotiations for commerce, has offered the Sultan munitions and ships in abundance if he will attack the States of the Church or of his Catholic Majesty. This offer has greatly assisted his negotiations though he was opposed by the French and English Ambassadors.

Rome, 30th June, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 5. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

567. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

News from Denmark with an account of the capture of Ellenborg on the 19th May. The King employed all his forces amounting to fourteen thousand infantry and horse. This success is considered highly important, as the place is on the sea. Five large ships chiefly laden with copper were found in the harbour, half sunk; orders have been given to recover them. The King then pushed on and invested Golberi, a castle one league inland from Ellenborg. He called on it to surrender; the garrison asked for fifteen days, which the King would not grant for fear lest succours should arrive in the meantime. He opened fire and in four days reduced the place; then having no other fortress to oppose him he pushed on into Sweden towards Incopen. During this time the Lord of Ranzo pushed on with six thousand foot and some companies of horse,

* Johannes Garsia Millinus; *see* Ciaconius, Vitæ et res gestæ Pontificum Romanorum et S. R. E. Cardinalium. Tonm iv. 404.

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towards a Fort three miles from Kalmar, called Fort Risbus, on a hill, garrisoned by two hundred foot. Ranzo, with some difficulty, placed his cannon in a commanding position, and after breaching the walls in several places, he assaulted and captured the Fort, which could not be succoured because of the artillery. Thus the King of Denmark is master of almost all Gothland, and the King of Sweden has only one place on the ocean and is cut off from all trade except with Poland, Danzig and part of Muscovy; Ranzo has moved on to join the King of Denmark. After the defeat which I reported and his various accidents in the river the King of Sweden is in bed with fever, though latest news assures us of his approaching recovery. It is held for certain that the two Kings must have met by now, for all the country is open right up to Stockholm, the capital. While this is going on negotiations also are afoot. The King of England has lately sent an Agent; the Hanseatic towns do not wish to see Denmark successful; and the Protestant Princes and the Dutch all wish for peace. All the English troops have left. Lord Willoughby, who commands them, has been delayed by the wind, along with twenty or twenty-five other gentlemen; but he must be across by now. Peace will certainly follow. The advantage to one side or the other depends on fortune which, as yet, has smiled on Denmark. When peace is concluded they will endeavour to bring both Kings into the Union. That will easily be achieved; for Denmark has long ago declared his readiness, and Sweden will be compelled by circumstances.

London, 5th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 5. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives

568. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The copy of the letter sent by the Dutch Ambassador at Constantinople to his Masters is enclosed. I send it because, though I suppose your Excellencies are already aware of its contents, the details in the actual words of the Ambassador may be of value. If I am fortunate enough, as I hope, to hear what the answer is, and what other orders are given I will at once inform your Excellencies.

The Archduke Albert's orders to his troops to hold themselves ready, are now less stringent, and will probably fade away now that the Imperial Election is over. In Holland they were much alarmed at news from Frankfort that Albert, with the support of Mainz, Cologne and Saxony might balance Mathias, supported by the remaining three Electors. They are relieved, however, by the victory of Mathias. Had Albert been elected he would undoubtedly have supported the claims of Saxony with the Imperial forces and those of Flanders against Brandenburg and Neuburg. One cannot say whether the Spanish are urging the election of the King of the Romans or not. It is certain they would have preferred Albert to Mathias, though they do not show it. As Mathias is powerful, it is hoped that he will maintain the Cesarean dignity, and will be able to obtain assistance from the Members of the Empire on the slightest movement of the Turk.

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The Dutch have informed their French Majesties that the King of England wishes to bestow the Garter on Count Maurice and have enquired whether that is agreeable to them. They replied that the matter was indifferent, but they were favourable to Count Maurice. Accordingly the Dutch will give their assent and the Order will be sent. After the death of Lord Salisbury the King applies himself to business in a remarkable way. The French Ambassador told me that his Majesty had suggested to de Bouillon that the Queen of France should join the Union. The Ambassador did not deny that de Bouillon had spoken to the King and undertaken to handle the matter. He concluded that as the King is a minor the Queen will with difficulty be induced to pledge him to a policy. The Ambassador has asked for an audience, it must be on important business for the King has informed the Ambassadors that on weighty points they should refer to him, on minor matters to the Council, and for small points a Secretary of the Council will wait on them at home. All affairs that are not affairs of State are devolved to the Council.

London, 5th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding Despatch.

569. To the Illustrious and Potent Lords.

Has been at much pains to have an audience of the Grand Signor, but as yet in vain, owing to the Sultan's absence in certain pleasure gardens of his. The Grand Vizir has promised that he will obtain audience for me immediately on his Majesty's return. As yet no stone has been left unturned to undermine me, which they do by holding out ample promises. This I am told by my friends. They seek every means to thwart this good understanding, and your Lordships can not, and could hardly, credit the efforts that are made to oppose me. Luckily I have also good friends who recommend my affairs and might easily win over the great officers, only they change from day to day, and none of them knows anything about our country. Never could I have believed that this would have given me so much trouble. There is still a great difficulty ahead, for the Capudan Pasha, who was very well disposed, has been removed from his post and so cannot do what he would have done. The Turkish Court changes rapidly and it is difficult to count on support; the only course is to hit the right moment. The other Ambassadors have been so pressing that they have induced the Turk to make large demands and to enquire minutely into the condition of your Lordships' States. They have taken the opinion of certain nations such as Jews and Moors whom they trust on the ground that they have become Turks. The Moors spoke highly in our favour, and sent some of their leading men to beg me to present their thanks for the benefits and the loyalty shown them by the subjects of our nation, in assisting them to leave Spain for Barbary. They praise our nation to the skies for the magnanimity displayed in the war with Spain. There are a great many of them here who have learned the Turkish law. They beg your Lordships to be kind to those of their nation who go to Holland from France,

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and to send them here in your ships. All this Court has been in great travail over the ill-offices of the other Ambassadors. The moment I have had audience I will inform your Lordships.

Constantinople, 7th April, 1612.

Cornelius Haga.

[*Italian.*]

July 5
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

570. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Late the day before yesterday the Spanish Ambassador had a message from Don Pedro de Zuñiga to say he had reached Calais. He talks about the royal ships for his escort, the way in which he is to be met, his entry and his lodging provided by the King. The King had already given orders to prepare a lodging, but in a house that was not on a par with that prepared for de Bouillon. The Lieger, accordingly, is getting ready his own house to receive Don Pedro, who gives out that he will not accept lodgings from the King unless it be in the same house and on the same scale as that which was offered to de Bouillon. Here they say that as the King of Spain has not seen fit to send a Duke and a Grandee as France sent a Duke and a Crown officer, it is impossible to treat Don Pedro on an equality with de Bouillon, although he is a very great personage. They are very anxious to know what Don Pedro will say and the answer is a studied one, for the King has touched on the matter several times in Council held at Greenwich. It is not known whether Don Pedro will propose a match between the second Infanta and the Prince of Wales, although his Majesty has taken opinion of some of his Councillors in case he should. Sir Henry Wotton will be here in a few days, and then we shall learn the details of the Duke of Savoy's proposals of the Princess Maria for the Prince of Wales. Meantime the Duke's agent (Pergamo) is lodged at the King's charges, and he has been told that if this does not suit him he would be given twelve crowns a day, and he may lodge where he likes, which he has declined.

After the King had received the letters brought by Sir Henry Wotton's nephew, he has received still later ones, these contain two points; one that the Duke is doing all he can to raise a dower worthy of the Prince of Wales and is thinking of having recourse to his jewels; the other is that the Duke declares he is a Sovreign Prince and has no call to apply to Rome or to Spain. This makes the Tuscan negotiations to move apace; the offers mount up and a great quantity of gold passes into the hands of private individuals. The Queen told the Spanish Ambassador, who told me, that it amounted to a million. The French Ambassador has made some representations calculated to throw obstacles in the way of Tuscany, but with caution, though it is very well known, and I have discovered in conversation with him, enough to make it certain. Nothing further will be done till it is seen whether Don Pedro will mention the subject. The Lieger of Spain keeps silent and closely watches the French Ambassador. It will certainly displease Spain to see her Ambassador Extraordinary treated in a way so different from the reception given to the French Envoy but here

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they do not seem to pay much heed to this, and they are hoping to improve the royal revenue by four hundred thousand crowns a year, partly by the falling in of certain bounties granted by the King for a fixed period, partly by higher bids for farming taxes which are to remain at their present rate. The Spanish Ambassador has announced the arrival of Zuñiga at Calais and has asked for information as to the proposals for meeting and lodging him.

London, July 5th, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 5. Capi Consiglio de' Dieci, Lettere di Ambasciatori Inghilterra, Venetian Archives.

571. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Chiefs of the Ten.

I have received your instructions of the fourth of last month, ordering Scaramelli to leave England and to present himself before the Tribunal of your Excellencies to await their orders. I have communicated all to him, and will repeat the order in writing. He says he will obey. I tender humble thanks for the appointment of a good and able Secretary, and will retain a lively memory of the favour.

London, 5th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 6. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

572. To the Ambassador in England.

A vote of approval to the Ambassador for his treatment of the second son of the Duke of Modena. General satisfaction with the Ambassador's conduct.

Ayes 149.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 5.

[*Italian.*]

July 7. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

573. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The three privateers who arrived at Leghorn from Ma'amura have obtained the Grand Duke's leave to settle there with all their property which is in money. Others are expected soon.

The "galearata," so they call it, of the Earl of Warwick has been launched in Leghorn. She is longer than the ordinary galley and swifter.

Coloredo is back from Rome.

Florence, 7th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

574. Tommaso Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Giovanni de' Medici still remains incognito, and is negotiating about the marriage of the Prince of England with the Grand Duke's sister. He finds the difficulties greater than he

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expected. The matter was in the hands of Cardinals Bellarmin and Millino, and now four others, Sauli, Arrigoni, Aracœli and Ascolli, will deal with it. The Confessor of the Dowager Grand Duchess and Lotti, who was Secretary in England, have also arrived.

Rome, 7th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 10. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

575. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

On the 28th Don Pedro de Zuñiga left this for England. They are watching his negotiations jealously, as they fear he may propose the second Infanta for the Prince.

Paris, 10th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 12. Consiglio de' Dieci, Parti Roma. Venetian Archives.

576. To the Ambassador in Constantinople.

We are informed from a good source that among the members of your household or among those who constantly and freely frequent it, there is one who writes matter of grave prejudice to our State and especially of most important machinations against it; we therefore order you to intercept letters and to see whether they contain matter affecting our State; if you find anything of moment you are to send it on to us; [and if you think fit you shall arrest the person and send him here].

The same to the Ambassador at Rome, with the Emperor, in France, Spain, England and Savoy, and the Secretaries in Florence, Milan and Naples, omitting the words in brackets and substituting "and you will carefully observe all the movements of the persons who have written the letters, until further orders."

Expulsis Papalistis, and oath of secrecy administered.

[*Italian.*]

July 12. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

577. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and after some compliments to the Doge he spoke as follows:

The death of the Earl of Salisbury is the reason why he has not been recently to pay his respects. Now owing to an event which has taken place in this City, he has come to beg two favours, one is to relieve me of my annoyance and the other is to set at liberty that individual who was arrested the other day for impertinence to me. As your Serenity deigned to order the arrest of this person so I hope you will consent to order his instant liberation, as the punishment he has suffered will serve him as a lesson.

The Doge replied that the fellow had been arrested at once in order to be tried for his foul words, but as the Ambassador had expressed a desire for his liberation, the Avogador, in whose hands the case was, would be summoned and steps taken to meet his Excellency's wishes.

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The Ambassador said that the Earl of Salisbury held two posts, the Treasurership and the Secretaryship; the former had been placed in Commission, the King retains the other in his own hands. The Doge asked for news of the Prince's marriage; the Ambassador hoped soon to be able to give some.

The Ambassador went on to say that he must not omit to tender thanks for the favours he is constantly receiving, and especially in Padua, where he frequently goes, and where the Governors treat him in a way that leaves nothing to be desired. For this he is particularly obliged, and all the more so as his compatriots share in these favours; many of them went also to Palma, where they were so cordially welcomed by the Illustrious Signor Benetto da la Tagiapiera that they knew not what to say or do. "I wish to tell your Serenity what I hear, that is that in former times our English who wished to come to this city used to make a fund which at three or four *per cent.* gave them money to help towards the expenses of the journey; they came too in small numbers on account of the distance and the cost; now the journey is so easy that they come without any fund and in greater numbers, even ladies come; when they go back to their own country others, attracted by the report of the beauty of this city and by the fame of the new fortress of Palma, will I am certain arrive in hundreds and even thousands for where there was only one; flocking as it were to a hermitage. (*Et voglio dire a Vostra Serenità quello che sento et è che siccome in altri tempi li nostri Inglesi che volevano venire in questa Città facevano una certa colletta d'oro, per avanzar tre o quattro per cento, che servissero per le spese del viaggio, et venivano pochi per la distanza et per il dispendio, hora l'hanno così facile che vengono senza la colletta et in maggior numero, et vengono le Donne medesime; et ritornando al paese tratti delle informationi, non solo della bellezza di questa Città ma dalla fama della nova Fortezza di Palma . . . credo certo che concorreranno, come alla visita d'un Eremo per uno cento et poi 'li migliara.*)

The Doge said all nationalities and especially the English were welcome.

The Ambassador tenders thanks for the favour granted to the English merchant, recommended by his Majesty's Ambassador in Constantinople; as he wishes to be brief, in order to spare the Doge fatigue, he will merely recall the case of the Vicentine gentleman on whose behalf he some time ago presented a petition. As he has had no answer he fears there may be some difficulty in his case owing to the rules of the Republic, from which he had no desire to derogate. He would take it as a favour if they could come to some decision, so that the subjects of Venice might understand that his Majesty's Envoys are held in consideration.

The Doge said that if they knew the name of the person they might recall the matter.

The Ambassador replied that he was one of the del Monte family who desired a safe conduct. The Doge said that was an affair for the Ten, in which he had not been sitting lately owing to his ill health. The matter would be recalled. It was a point that required a very large majority.

[*Italian.*]

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July 13.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

578. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marquis de Flores Davila, Ambassador Extraordinary of Spain, arrived on Tuesday. He was met at Dover in the King's name by the Master of the Ceremonies and two royal carriages. Twenty miles out of London the Earl of Dorset met him with the royal barges. The Ambassador is lodged in the house of the Lieger, who went to meet him, along with the Flemish Ambassador, many miles out. In this way the difficulty of a royal lodging in one house rather than in another, is overcome. On Sunday he will have his first audience at Hampton Court where the King arrives on Saturday, and at Theobalds his Majesty intends to give him his congè. I can say nothing certain as yet about the commission he holds from his King. When he has spoken to his Majesty I will send a full report to your Serenity. I can only say that as the King has prepared an answer to anything he may bring forward and as the Ambassador is to receive his congè after a few days, and as his Majesty shows little inclination to wait his arrival, the Ambassador may possibly proceed with reserve. At Hampton Court, however, he will be well received and, I believe, lodged for the few days he is there. I have not failed to send to visit him and to pay him all due compliments.

Wotton's nephew must be now many days in Germany, whither he was sent by the King with letters for his uncle, who is to be here shortly.

The Agent of Savoy, who dined with me on Tuesday, said that he still hoped for some result, but that nothing could be settled for certain till Wotton arrived. And in truth the rumours of a Savoy match are growing louder; the King, the Queen, and the Prince seem inclined to it. There are, however, no further details than those already sent to your Excellencies. The Florentine Secretary says that Lotti will be back here in less than a month with very satisfactory particulars. The Palatine will certainly be here on the King's return from Progress. Prince Harry, brother of Prince Maurice, will accompany him; Prince Maurice would have liked to come in person to kiss the King's hand for the favours bestowed on him, to see the Prince to whom he bears a singular affection, and to enjoy for awhile the grandeur of this Court and the kindness of the royal family.

There is here a gentleman sent by the Duke de Bouillon to the King; and there is a rumour that the Duke may come back to England when the Elector is here. The English Ambassador in France reports that de Bouillon gave to the Queen the most favourable report of the King's desire to continue and to weld still closer the bonds of perfect understanding. The Queen used most affectionate terms and promised that by the first of October a hundred thousand crowns of the debt would be paid off, and that if the Dutch did not presently come to a decision, she would see that his Majesty recovered his credit, which is a large sum. The French Ambassador has had audience and has conveyed these expressions to the King.

The Marquis of Spinola has gone to Cologne; one knows not whether with the intent to pass on into Germany, or because of the continued hostility of the inhabitants towards the two "possessioners."

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The King's progress will not be confined to Nottingham but will be continued to York, which is upwards of fifty miles further on. The Council, the Prince, the Duke of York and the Queen also will attend him. The Progress will begin at the end of this month, and I am more than ever of the opinion that I should follow them, as I think I can thus best serve your Excellencies.

An Agent of the Elector of Brandenburg is here; he has presented their Majesties with some roe-deer, rather different from those which are found here. The Landgrave also continues at Court. The Persian Ambassador will leave in three months by sea. He will go to the Persian Gulf with three vessels with people who desire to trade there, but I am sure they will take to piracy, and will inflict damage on the Spanish ships which are absolute masters in those seas. The Spanish Ambassador, when last I saw him, told me he was staying on here much against his will; and went so far as to say he would not go to audience, neither now nor before his departure, were it not that the presence of the Ambassador Extraordinary made it necessary.

London, 13th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 14. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

579. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The negotiations for a dispensation for the marriage of the Princess to the Prince of England seem to meet with growing difficulties. The Pope wishes to refer the matter to the Holy Office. He is urged on by the Spanish. The Pope has sent here expressly Mon. Vulpio, Archbishop of Chieti, who arrived two days ago. He is to dissuade the Grand Duke. He has with him Padre Castelficardo, a Fransiscan, theologian to Cardinal Montalto, an excellent preacher, Councillor to the Holy Office, to which post he was admitted in the place of Cardinal d'Ascoli. So far Mons. Vulpio lodges with Mons. Grimani.

Florence, 14th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 14. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

580. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

On Sunday the "galearata" was tried. She was launched and after some slight changes, which are necessary, they think she will do; though experts tell me that as her proportions are faulty she will not be able to stand a gale.

Florence, 14th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

581. Tommaso Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

The Pope is still opposed to the Anglo-Tuscan match. He will inform their Highnesses of the grounds for his objections, but those who know say the consent will be given after a decent interval.

Rome, 14th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
July 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

582. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The death of Secretary Cecil gives pleasure here, both because a bitter enemy of the Catholic Religion is gone and also because it is hoped that now they will be able to negotiate more advantageously with that crown about navigation and other interests.

Madrid, 14th July, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

July 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

583. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador to the Dutch was here last week; he had been sent for by his Majesty, with whom he has had frequent interviews. There is a rumour that he is to be given one of the Secretarial posts which are vacant by the death of Lord Salisbury. At the same time the Dutch Ambassador here received letters with particulars from Barneveldt. He is to urge the King to insist on peace between Sweden and Denmark. He is also to assure his Majesty that the moment they had notice of the appearance of a little book which might have annoyed the King they suppressed it, and will take further proceedings. Three days ago the Ambassador had audience, in spite of his bad health. He thanked the King for his kind enquiries during his illness, and then carried out his instructions. He dwelt on the risks if the Swedish war was continued. Poland, which is fully armed, might easily push ahead; it would not suit any of its neighbours, least of all Denmark, to have on their borders so powerful a King as Poland would be if he conquered Sweden. The King's Agent and the King's succours had both reached the King of Denmark at the same time, and he had thought it more advantageous to employ the arms rather than the diplomatist; Sweden hearing of these succours would treat the English Council as suspect. The King replied that he had always sought to bring about peace, and that he had made it clear to Denmark that these succours were for this summer only, and if peace be not declared before autumn he will withdraw them nor allow others to be sent for the future.

I have heard that the omission of Sweden to send to announce his succession and coronation is not pleasing here.

The States are anxious for peace above all others on public and private grounds as well, for the war cuts them off from the benefits of commerce with those countries; both powers seize the shipping that goes to either of them.

Two ships have arrived from Virginia; and they are thinking of sending out others to assist the development of the Colony.

London, 14th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

584. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday Grotti, who was here as Secretary for the Archduke Albert, came to see me on behalf of the Marquis of Flores Davila.

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He told me the Ambassador was well and intended to stay here some weeks, and indicated that he had business which would require this. The Lieger of Spain sent to apologise for not having visited me on the ground of his occupations.

On Sunday afternoon both Ambassadors went to Hampton Court to audience. The Archduke's Ambassador was also with them, as well as the Florentine Secretary; all the same the suite was poor. They were received by their Majesties and the royal household in a gallery, standing up, and without ceremony. The audience lasted a very short time, and was confined to compliments. The King told the Ambassador he would receive him again on Thursday, and with that he took his leave without a single other favour, neither lodging nor invitation, which is much commented on. The King's brief reply put an end to the audience and gave indications that the past annoyances are still rankling. The Ambassador kissed the Queen's hand, but said merely a couple of words as is fitting in the presence of the King. It is certain that he brings more than one proposal, besides giving an account of the reciprocal matches.

The King received despatches from Spain, and the two Ambassadors have sent despatches this morning. Perhaps they have found out what kind of answer the King and the Council had settled to give to his proposals, as they may have sent word of this to Spain, as well as their views on the King's attitude which they have gathered from his Majesty's words and their treatment as regards their reception and lodging.

The King is expected to-morrow in London, summoned by important business. He will remain two days, and will give the necessary orders before leaving for his Progress. On Friday he will grant the first business audience to the Spanish Ambassador. I do not know whether the Florentine Secretary imparts his affairs and whether the Spanish Ambassador is to treat of them. The French Ambassador is opposed to Florentine aims. Both Tuscany and Savoy are waiting to hear what the Spanish Ambassadors say. I pay the closest attention to what is going on, but since the death of the Earl of Salisbury things are changed, and I have to seek new instruments; in truth, by his death I have lost much, for he used to keep me informed, and in his household I had many friends who were valuable in your Excellencies' service. It is not clear who is to be Lord Treasurer, nor yet who will be appointed Secretary of State. Yesterday the King was hunting within three miles of Windsor, and to-day he sent me his bag, a fine stag, accompanied by a message which enhanced the honour.

London, 18th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 19. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

585. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King of Spain has given Don Emmanuel of Portugal twelve thousand crowns in addition to the six thousand crowns of annual income already bestowed. The Spaniards hope to induce him to live in Antwerp, or if he continues in Holland to use him

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in the negotiations for a final peace. If he would consent to live in Spain they offer to pardon those followers of his father, Don Antonio, whom he may name as his servants. As far as can be seen at present Don Emmanuel will enjoy the offers made him without leaving his brother-in-law, Prince Maurice. He entertains hopes of further favours, and peace is not to his interest. On the fourth, an Ambassador from the Elector of Brandenburg was at the Hague. My informant tells me that he has very important proposals for France, England and the United Provinces. The Secretary Grotti has told me about the Imperial Election, that had Treves stood with the other Ecclesiastical Electors the Archduke Albert would have been Emperor. As to the King of the Romans there seems to be no chance of speaking about that just now, as there is a rumour that the Empress is with child. So the issue must be waited. Albert, like a good brother, has sent to congratulate the Emperor. All this Grotti said with a shrug of the shoulders, meaning that nothing else could be done. Should the rumour eventually prove false they will think of proceeding to an Election.

There is a report that goods plundered by English vessels have been sold in Leghorn and taken to Ancona and Goro, where the prices are higher. Many see the only remedy in the marriage of the Grand Duke's second sister to the Prince of Wales; but generally this match is loathed and it is very openly said that if a Tuscan woman comes here she will counsel taxation and will cause the same notable damage which another Tuscan woman has brought about in France. This is common talk.

The King, moved by his own interests, has sent fresh and urgent orders to Sweden and Denmark that his agents are to endeavour to bring about peace between the two Kings. The Royal Progress is fixed for the end of this month, and the list of places* where the King will lodge is already published; all the same the Spanish Ambassador Extraordinary does not seem inclined to depart. To-day I ought to return the visit of the Lieger and himself, and I shall, perhaps, learn something.

A personage who knows the King's mind asked me what I thought about peace between the Persians and the Turk; he showed that he did not place much reliance on it, and added that in case of need your Excellencies might count on the assistance of his Majesty against the Turk or against anyone else. When the King came to the throne of England he had a great desire to form a league of Christian Princes against the Turk, and would have done his share by paying ten thousand foot if everyone else had done his duty. I replied that your Excellencies relied on his Majesty's help and, as occasion offered, promised themselves everything from his aid; I was glad to hear the confirmation from his lips. As to the peace I had heard nothing more than this vague rumour. I must not omit to report again, as I have already done, that his Majesty has frequently expressed to me in the hearing of others that he desires to be united in the same interests with your Excellencies.

The Spanish Ambassador Extraordinary, from whom I am just returned, told me he intended to stay here two months at least.

* *See* Nichols, Progresses. II.

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He says he has a long affair to deal with and that in September the Lieger's successor will be here. He told me that when here as Lieger he had more honour shown him than now.

London, 19th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 21. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence, Venetian Archives.

586. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The negotiations for the English match are so far advanced that only the Papal dispensation is needed. Mons. Vulpio has had a long audience, and their Highnesses declare that they cannot go back upon what has been arranged. Yesterday the Secretary Ottaviano Lotti was sent to England. Secretary Chioli is to be sent back. They are proposing compromises.

Florence, 21st July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 22. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

587. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The King of England told Pergamo to beg his Highness to suspend all negotiations for marriage until Wotton had reached England, and could give his Majesty full information.

Turin, 22nd July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

588. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

One of the points which the King of Great Britain chiefly insisted upon when the Duke de Bouillon was in England was the restitution of the Scotch Guards, who had been cashiered for some trifle and had made their offence worse by having recourse to the King of England—a very bad example as the French thought. However, it was settled yesterday that to please the King of England the soldiers should be replaced but for two months only, after which time they should be again dismissed with a money indemnification to the value of their posts, which are sold here like all other offices. The English Ambassador is quite upset at this decision and has loudly complained to de Bouillon and others that, trusting to de Bouillon's word, he had written to the King that he would be gratified, and in a blaze of fury he has written home to England in such strong terms that it will make a commotion. De Bouillon excused himself on the ground that it would be dangerous to place the King's person in the care of soldiers who considered themselves offended; and he said that the King of England ought to be satisfied with restitution for a couple of months. Villeroy speaks more clearly and says that at the time the Scotch Guard was established Scotland was independent of England and even hostile to her, and as circumstances are changed so the attitude must change. The English Ambassador declines to deal with Villeroy on the subject

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and represents the whole as an attempt to suppress the Scotch Guard and to sow discord between England and Scotland. The Queen of France has also sent special instructions to her Ambassador in England on this subject.

Paris, 23rd July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 24. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

589. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Pope, through the Nuncio, expresses a desire that he should be named in the contracts as the chief promoter of the Franco-Spanish matches. The Nuncio has encountered some difficulty in the matter, as the French Ministers have always affirmed the contrary to England and to others who were suspicious of these matches. It seems that this was really the case, but now that the matches are concluded the Pope thinks it becomes his dignity as the Common Father to make it appear that they are the result of his hands and his authority. The Queen will assent, and will tell England that this is merely a compliment to his Holiness. Parliament has finally decided that Richer is to be maintained in his post.

Paris, 24th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 26. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

590. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King, on Friday morning, gave audience to the Ambassador Extraordinary of Spain, who informed him of the reciprocal matches with France. He dwelt on the nearness of the two Kingdoms, on their common interests, and added that his Catholic Majesty believed he was doing the service of God and of Christendom by concluding these matches, which would not alter in the smallest way the good peace and friendship with his Majesty. He then went on to excuse the answer sent by his Master as to the request for the Infanta for the Prince of Wales. He swore that it was not lack of regard that caused it. The negotiations with France were then nearing a conclusion, the preliminaries being signed. What the Lieger had said in urging his Majesty to make the request was said for himself, and without any conceivable order from Spain, where they were highly displeased at his method of conducting business. He then went on to excuse himself, saying that he knew there were rumours that he had made very unfriendly representations to the King and his Council, which he denied with many an oath and imprecation, and asserted that he had always made most favourable reports. The audience lasted an hour and the Ambassador spoke nearly the whole time; he would have liked to introduce some business, but his Majesty broke it off. The Ambassador

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received no sort of favour, but just an ordinary audience, nor did he see the King afterwards. On Tuesday he kissed the Queen's hand, but stayed a short time. To-morrow he is to see the King again at Theobalds. He hopes after audience to go hunting with the King as the Master of the Ceremonies told him was intended, and he has prepared a new livery for the country. I hear that the King will endeavour to exclude all business, as he holds that the Ambassador cannot have any commission that would be satisfactory. If the Ambassador insists the King will reply that he is going on Progress and will refer him to the Council, which would in that case stay on here a few days and would bring on the Ambassador's proposals to the King, who would come to a decision. I shall regulate my conduct as regards following the King or staying on here as I think best for your Excellencies' service.

Some days ago a Spanish carvel was captured off the coast of Portugal by two English ships; her cargo was taken and sent on board one of them to England, which she reached twelve days ago. Her consort remained out. Their owner, John Davis, claims that this is lawful prize in reprisals for damage inflicted on him by Spain after the conclusion of peace. As Davis is one of the merchants on whose behalf his Majesty caused his Ambassador in Spain to talk so high, threatening force if he was not indemnified, it is thought that the captured cargo of sugar will be recognised as fair prize and also all other plunder he may take up to the amount of the damage he suffered. The Lieger of Spain went to the Council on Monday and said that Don Diego di Sarmiento, his successor, would soon be here. He praised his prudence and ability and then, speaking of himself, he said that all the time of his sojourn here he had had two objects, the first to serve his Master and then to serve the King. In Spain he was held to be too favourable to the English, and so he was molested; he swore before God that he had had always first in his heart his Master's service and believed that he could not do his duty better than by promoting a good understanding between the Sovreigns. He ended by saying he had some business to deal with, but that he would not waste words, and so he handed in a memorandum signed by himself; he said he did not expect an immediate answer, but looked for a favourable one, and that shortly; all that the memorial contained was also absolutely true. The memorial petitioned for the restitution of the stolen cargo. There were four or five articles of proof. He begged for a conclusion of the affair, but no answer was returned and so the courier left yesterday. As far as I can see there is no inclination here to take any steps about the stolen goods; and if this beginning is tolerated your Excellencies may imagine the consequences, for there are many who claim indemnification from Spain, and who desire nothing better than to be allowed to make reprisals.

A member of the Council tells me that the King having reported the Ambassador Extraordinary's oaths and objurgations to some of the Council, they are only grown more suspicious.

London, 26th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
July 26.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

591. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday the 21st the King's Ambassador to the United Provinces* left London, and yesterday their Ambassador here took his leave of the King at Theobalds and will return to Holland next week. Meantime he will endeavour to find out what the Ambassador Extraordinary of Spain will do at his audience. It is not generally thought that he will get any satisfaction. The Kings of Sweden and Denmark write to the Dutch in terms which show that they are not far from coming to a peace.

As regards Florence they have agreed to a secret and limited exercise of her religion for the second sister of the Grand Duke should she ever marry the Prince of Wales. The Duke of Savoy would grant the same. The Lieger of Spain, in conversation with me, said that both Florence and Savoy were acting without energy and show that they do not like this proposal. It is also certain that a million of gold has been offered. The business stands where Lotti left it at his departure. He is expected back in twenty days, and if the negotiations are really going on, an Ambassador will accompany him. The Secretary Chioli continues an assiduous attention on the Queen and the Prince.

The agent of Savoy is waiting the arrival of Sir Henry Wotton, and is still at the King's charges. The Ambassador in Paris writes that Mayenne has been in Spain some days, but not at the King of Spain's charges, which gives offence. The Marshal de Bouillon often writes to the King and informs him of Spain's most secret designs in France. His Majesty has great confidence in the Marshal. The King has settled the religious differences between the Huguenots of France which arose about the Minister of Sedan. M. de Molins, a leading Minister, first put himself in the King's hands, then the Minister of Sedan. By this time Prince Maurice will have left to meet the Elector Palatine, who will be at the Hague in ten days.

Some servants of the late Don Antonio of Portugal, who were living here, have left to join Don Emmanuel in the hope of finding better fortune.

London, 26th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 28.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

592. Tommaso Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

Mons. Vulpio has conferred with the Grand Duke and the Dowager Grand Duchess and has sent express to his Holiness.

Letters also arrived for Don Giovanni de' Medici, who that evening went to see the Pope, and after being some time with him the Cardinals, who have to deal with the English match, were summoned to the Pope's presence next morning; we do not know what has happened beyond that the majority of the Cardinals are of opinion that the Pope cannot give his assent. Most people, however, consider that it is settled. The Pope must bear in mind that one day

* Sir Ralph Winwood. *See* Birch, "Court and Times of James I," Vol. 1, p. 186.

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he will have to make Don Carlo, brother of the bride, a Cardinal, and it would not do for a Cardinal to be brother-in-law of the King or the Prince of England.

The Grand Duchess' Confessor is employed by the Pope to reply to Mornay's book called "Mysterium iniquitatis seu Historia Papalis."

Rome, 28th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

July 28. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

593. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Mons. Vulpio is still here. Since Lotti left Vulpio has given up negotiating, as he finds the matter so far forward. The Pope, however, for his own reputation insists on his remaining still at this Court for a while. He will await the arrival of Lotti in London.

Florence, 28th July, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 2. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

594. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Spanish Ambassadors went on Friday to Theobalds, which they reached late in the evening. On the following morning the Ambassador Extraordinary went hunting with the King, and on Sunday they both dined with him. They were lodged outside the Palace in a very modest house, nor had they other visits from his Majesty. The dinner was in no way sumptuous, in fact it was quite ordinary, consisting of the game the King had taken, namely, a couple of roe-deer. He made them no presents nor showed them any favour. The Lieger did not go to the chase, as he said he was suddenly attacked by a pain in the side; and on Sunday, after dinner, it was the Ambassador Extraordinary alone who had audience, and that a very short one. Perhaps because, as the Ambassador said, the King was not in a good humour,* or having heard from another quarter that proposals would not be acceptable, he did not broach any business, but deferred it to a more favourable occasion. He simply repeated what he had already said about the reciprocal matches and the regard of his Master for this Kingdom. With that, he said he had finished his task; but he begged his Majesty to allow him to stay on some weeks, during which time he would send to Spain a courier who on his return might bring him some commission to introduce other business. In the meantime the great heats will have passed and he will be able to return home more conveniently. The King was amazed at this unusual mode of talking, so far removed from anything he has expected. He hardly returned an answer, only saying a few cold words, and so the Ambassador took his leave and that same evening came back to London along with the Lieger. After they had left, his Majesty consulted with several Lords of the Council. He showed suspicion and little satisfaction at the Ambassador's desire to stay on here without any

* *See* Gardiner 1 *op. cit.* 11, 152. Note 1. The King had a bad toothache.

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need after he had, as he himself said, discharged his duty. As to the views of the Ambassador's real motives, a person deep in the King's intimacy caused me to be asked whether I had penetrated the meaning. He went on to say that he suspected the Ambassador was stopping on for no good purpose. It is known that he has, as yet, sent two messengers to Spain. It is certain he has spent, so far, fifty-thousand ducats, most of it in new gold pieces coined in Flanders and called "Alberts." Information from the Ambassador who was with the Archduke increases this suspicion of the Spaniard's intentions. This personage after telling me this asked me my opinion.

The King began his Progress on Monday. The Council stays on here, as does the Prince and the Queen. Their action will govern mine, as I must keep as near the source of negotiations as possible.

On Monday both Ambassadors of Spain came to visit me after dinner. They stayed nearly an hour in friendly talk. I gathered nothing except that the Ambassador Extraordinary was going to wait here some time longer, as he expected some gentlemen from Flanders and the ordinary and express posts from Spain. After they left me they spent the rest of the afternoon with the Flemish Ambassador. On Monday morning the French Ambassador set out to follow the King and joined his Majesty that evening at a place called St. Albans, twenty-four miles off. He was back again the day before yesterday. I saw him the same day by chance, but he told me nothing of importance. I am assured that the fact that Spinola, Calderon and Zuñiga, stayed some days in Paris has aroused the King's suspicions, and he asked point blank what they had talked about. The French Ambassador passed the question on to Villeroy, who replied that the Spanish had some business in Germany and had talked about that and the matches. I understand that the Ambassador Extraordinary of Spain has four heads to treat of, three refer to the terms of the peace which are not observed, and the fourth is to suggest a match between his Catholic Majesty and the Princess if he sees that there is any inclination towards it; this he has not found and so he deems it inexpedient to touch on any of the other subjects, two of which refer to Virginia, where the English are very active, and the other to the north-west passage, which would be so profitable to this Crown and on which the Prince of Wales lays such stress. The Ambassador has reported all to his Master and waits fresh orders. Many, however, suspect that he intends to scatter pensions, and to endeavour to win over some personages to the Spanish interests.

London, 2nd August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 2. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

595. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King is devoting his mind to the pacification of the Kings of Sweden and Denmark. Yesterday, one of the gentlemen sent for that purpose came back here and went straight on to his Majesty. It is said that he brings very good hopes of peace, and it is thought certain that it will be concluded. They will then immediately proceed to draw all the Princes of the Reformed Faith

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into a Union, and I am told some others may be included. The King is very warm about standing well with the United Provinces, and will drop anything which may modify his relations with them. This is the tenour of the instructions given to his Ambassador. The Dutch Ambassador is leaving after a secret conversation with the King, and he is expected back in six weeks. The suspicion of Spanish action and the French matches incense the King, who is by nature quiet, though easily impressed. Here everybody considers Spanish conduct suspicious, and desires the freedom they enjoyed under Queen Elizabeth. They will make no further indemnity for the carvel that was plundered, but will shelter themselves behind the plea that when the sugar was taken other goods were given in exchange. This is a line they may very easily take in the case of other ships, and it is not unlikely that in this way the blood may grow hot.

The Marchese Spinola and Don Rodrigo Calderon met at Cologne with Don Baldassare de Zuñiga and had a long conference. Their business is thought to refer to Don Pedro de Zuñiga, who is here. It is known that they also discussed the Election of the King of the Romans, and then Don Baldassare returned to his post of Ambassador at the Imperial Court, while Spinola and Calderon went to Brussels, where they have arrived. They at once saw the Archduke, who is very anxious to secure his own Election; that will take place next year, and meantime it will be made clear whether the Empress is *enceinte* or not.

I have endeavoured to find out whether the proposed marriage between the Prince and the second sister of the Grand Duke is going ahead, and I have discovered that Ciorli in spite of the negotiations, and in spite of his gifts, finds coldness towards the scheme, especially since Lord Salisbury's death, and so Lotti when he returns will find the Grand Duke's prospects worse than when he departed. Sir Henry Wotton is expected hourly. It is known that he has embarked at Flushing. He came through Germany and stayed at Cologne. On his arrival we shall learn the upshot of his negotiations in Savoy. The Agent of the Duke of Savoy (Pergamo) is waiting on here without negotiating.

I have received your Serenity's letters of the 6th of last month, approving of my having lodged the second son of the Duke of Modena. I enclose a letter from him and my answer, both merely letters of politeness.

London, 2nd August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding dispatch

596. Letter from Antonio Foscarini to the Prince of Modena.

London, 5th July, 1612.

597. Letter from Luigi d'Este to Antonio Foscarini.

Dover, 28th June, 1612.

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Aug. 3.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

598. To the Ambassador in France.

The Grisons have come to the decision to denounce their treaty with us on its expiry at the end of ten years. You are to thank any agent of the Evangelical Cities that may come to Paris.

Ayes	66.	Second vote	Ayes	54.
Noes	15.		Noes	9.
Neutrals	70.		Neutrals	86.

Not carried.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 3.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

599. To the Presidents of the Three Leagues.

Mollinari has conveyed to us your Lordship's letters, informing us of your recent decision, of which we take note.

Ayes 143.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 3.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 4.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

600. Tommaso Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Giovanni de' Medici ill in bed with fever caused by erysipelas in a leg. He leaves the house only incognito and to negotiate about the English match. This is drawing to a conclusion, as the Cardinal of St. Cecilia is giving way. They are anxiously waiting the news which will be brought back by Lotti, who has been sent again to England.

Rome, 4th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 4.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

601. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Mons. Vulpio had instructions and orders from his Holiness to remain here till there was news of Lotti's arrival in London; but, as an express has arrived from Ciorli the Secretary in England, with letters giving an account of the excellent disposition of the King, and of the large presents Ciorli is making in order to bring about the match, and as the Grand Duke has immediately informed his ambassador in Rome and Don Giovanni de' Medici so that they might lay the whole situation before his Holiness, the Pope has now sent orders to Mons. Vulpio to take his leave after placing the negotiations in the best possible position. Vulpio accordingly took his leave two days ago, and is now making farewell visits to the Ministers.

Florence, 4th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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Aug. 7.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

602. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador, after reporting the upshot of the affair of the Scottish Guard, has received other orders on the matter. The French Ambassador in England writes that he is in hopes of satisfying the King. He reports that the Spanish Ambassador Extraordinary was not well received, and that the King will end by being a better friend to France than to Spain. This has given fresh grounds for talking of the marriage of the second Princess of France to the Prince, in spite of the belief that the negotiations with Florence are far advanced.

Paris, 7th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 8.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

603. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

As I gather that your Excellencies are inclined to gratify the second son of Modena by granting him a pension, and as you charge me to write to you on the subject, I must tell you that I have urged him to make his father promise to allow you to raise troops for the protection of your State. I enclose his letter which you can forward.

London, 8th August, 1612.

[*Italian, deciphered.*]

Aug. 9.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

604. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I hear from various quarters that the points of Zuñiga's mission were four. To urge the King to withdraw the Virginia colony, as it is a contravention of the clauses of the Peace; to desist from manning ships for the north-west passage, in accordance with his royal word; as there is a clause by which the King is obliged, within a given period now long passed, to do what "accords with his honour" as regards the places which he holds in the United Provinces, it will be necessary to come to some resolution; to propose a marriage between his Catholic Majesty and the Princess. The Spanish are anxious at seeing the English establishing themselves more and more in Virginia, not because they value that country, in which there is no great abundance, nor mines of gold or of silver, nor any great wealth, but because if the English stay there with their ships and sail those seas they can easily stop and plunder the *flotta*. The north-west passage also gives them the greatest anxiety, for it would be a fatal blow, they would lose the trade of those parts which would be transferred here. On the subject of the places which the King holds in Holland the request is intended, they suspect, to cause bad blood between the Dutch and the English. The marriage proposals are intended to flatter the King, to please the Catholics, and further, if the King of Spain is to marry, he could find no better match, as the Princess is eligible for the succession to these realms if her two brothers died childless; besides which she is very beautiful, of the noblest blood, gentle

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manners, speaking several languages and of singular goodness. Whether these really are the four points of his instructions I cannot possibly say, for as yet he has not introduced them, but as common report has it so I bring them to the notice of your Excellencies.

The Ambassador stays on here and is very unpopular. A few days ago a more than ordinary unpleasantness took place at his residence and roused the neighbourhood. Had it not been for the intervention of the constable and officers, worse would have happened.*

Three days ago Sir Henry Wotton was here, on his return from his Embassy in Savoy. To-morrow he will be with the King. He declined visits till he had seen the King. I hear he brings particulars about the meeting between Spinola, Calderon and Zuñiga at Cologne; and at Düsseldorf he met Ernest, brother of Brandenburg. The Emperor has prepared an order forbidding the works at Mühlheim, but showed some hesitation about publishing it; he asked who would enforce it if it were disobeyed. The King of Spain, through Don Baldassare de Zuñiga, is in treaty for the purchase of the Saxony claim to Cleves and Juliers, and the affair may already be concluded. There are rumours of greater affairs. The Marchese Spinola is putting together as many troops as he can.

Deputies of the Hanseatic Towns are at the Hague; their Mission is to form an alliance with the Dutch.

Three days ago an Ambassador † from the Palatine was here, and after resting two hours only, he went on to join the King. Probably he comes about the affair of Cleves and the Imperial injunction to stop the works at Mühlheim, which may easily kindle a great fire in the North, as the House of Austria is taking one side and all the Confederates the other. The Dutch Ambassadors have left. Yesterday they were at Gravesend, detained by head winds. Viscount Lisle,‡ Governor of Flushing, has gone to his command on express orders of the King. It seems that the Protestant Princes are suspicious of the Emperor; we shall know in a few days whether they lean to Spain or to the Imperial Princes. Don Juan de Silva, Viceroy of the Philippines, when restoring the King of Ternate, seized some Dutch vessels. This may lead to a breach and will certainly cause ill feeling. Two great ships have arrived from the Indies at Amsterdam; their cargo is worth upwards of a million and a half of gold. Prince Maurice, following Spinola, has mustered all his troops. The rumours of war are great. King Sidan of Morocco, who has made himself master of all that country, has received a

* *See* Birch, *Court and Times of James I.* 1. 191. "But to show that he is unwelcome, as he was riding in his carrosse with his six mules over Holborn Bridge the other day, with his great lethagador about his neck, and coming upon his elbow, at the side of the carrosse comes a fellow by him on horseback, and whether *de quet-apens* or otherwise, I cannot tell, but he snatches the Ambassador's hat off his head, which had a rich jewel in it, and rides away with it up the street as fast as he could, the people going on and laughing at it. The fellow was not lighted on again. But I am sorry they had so just an advantage against us to say we are barbarous in our City of London."

† Count Schomberg. *See* Birch, op. cit., 1. 189.

‡ Birch, op. cit., 1. 193. "The Lord Lisle is gone over to Flushing, richer by £1,000 land a year by her (Countess of Rutland's) death."

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check from Muley Abdullah, and has been forced to retire. The Dutch have important agreements with King Sidan, which must now, for the present, vanish. The French Ambassador has had a long audience of the King on the subject of Flanders and Holland. He has informed his Majesty that the Queen has restored the Scottish Guard and dismissed Nerestan, who refused to serve on those conditions; and all to please his Majesty. The French Ambassador has not visited the Spanish Ambassador as yet; and I hear that the Duke of Mayenne on entering Spain found little satisfaction. His people came to blows with the people of a certain town and the Spanish got the worst of it. For all the French Ambassador can do, he has not succeeded in changing the King's view as to the present attitude of France under the government of Villeroy and the Chancellor.

London, 9th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 11. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

605. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

After Mons. Vulpio had taken his leave, the Grand Duke sent to him, asking him, through Cav. Vinta, to suspend his departure, and to allow Father Castelficardo to go, as he has done; he will now be in Rome along with the Grand Duchess's confessor. They are to employ their knowledge of the situation and their learning to find out some accommodation which will permit the issue of a dispensation for the match. The Pope's delay is very displeasing to his Highness, because representations may in the meantime be made to hinder the conclusion of the match. On the plea of the illness of one of the Secretaries, Mons. Vulpio stayed on, but after the arrival in Rome of Father Castelficardo, the Pope sent him fresh orders to return immediately, as he did, not thinking that it became his dignity to keep Mons. Vulpio longer in Florence when the Grand Duke had refused to abandon the idea of a match. He has accordingly again taken his leave and is about to go.

Florence, 11th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

606. Tommaso Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

While I was waiting an audience I talked to his Holiness's Chamberlain, who told me that the affair of the English and Tuscan match must soon come to a conclusion now. Don Giovanni is on the point of departure. On Monday there was a meeting of the Cardinals appointed to consider the matter; all were present except Sta. Cecilia, whether by orders or voluntarily I know not. The result is not known as yet.

Rome, 11th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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Aug. 12.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

607. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke has received despatches from Pergamo, his agent in England, saying that Wotton had not arrived. The marriage with the Florentine does not appear so certain as some think. The Duke, however, is convinced that it is, and is much put out.

Turin, August 12th, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 13.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

608. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

News that Don Pedro de Zuñiga has arrived in England. They are waiting to see what effect he produces as regards the French matches and by his orders to dissuade the King from his operations in the West Indies, where he is making great strides since the acquisition of Virginia. It is thought that Zuñiga *will receive small satisfaction on this point.*

Madrid, 13th August, 1612.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Aug. 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

609. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Palatine's Ambassador has passed several days with the King. He then visited the Queen and the Prince, and has presented very rich gifts to the Princess. His business over, he will leave to-morrow morning. He has discussed certain points about the marriage and confirmed the coming of the Elector.

The Duke of Saxony draws always closer to the Austrians. He complains of not being included in the late confederation and hints that he must find aid where he can. There is a rumour, which comes from the Spanish Embassy, that he intends to become a Catholic.

Next week the Lieger of Spain will send his sons, his women and the larger part of his household over to Flanders. He will stay on here for some time along with the Ambassador Extraordinary, who is waiting the return of the courier from Spain. There is a rumour that the King of Spain will lend to the Dutch the money necessary to recover Flushing from the hands of the English.

Wotton still stays near the King. He has made a report very favourable to the Duke. He praises the beauty and qualities of the Infanta Maria, and lauds the Duke as a Prince of ideas up-to-date and suited to the service of this Crown. It seems that the King and others lend an ear and the Queen is inclined that way. Apparently de Bouillon did propose the second Princess of France for the Prince with the promise of a considerable dower, some to be paid down now, but the King intends to make the Prince marry sooner than that.

London, 14th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Aug. 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

610. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador to the Archduke Albert some months ago reported something to the King which gave him an inkling of some plot against his life. Accordingly, having learned that there were many Jesuits in the county of Lincoln and stores of arms, he ordered the Lieutenant to take all needful precautions to prevent the danger. I am told that the League between the Pope, Spain, Emperor, France and Florence is settled and Saxony will enter. The rumour comes from the Spanish Embassy, while France vigorously denies it.

London, 14th August, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Aug. 18.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

611. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

On Sunday last Mons. Vulpio left. He was highly honoured. The Grand Duke professes devotion to the Pope and hopes that his Holiness will find a way to sanction the match which, from the King of England's promises, may lead to some advantage for the Catholic Religion in that kingdom. The Grand Duke has sent to inform Lotti of all this and has given orders that he is to send back the Secretary Ciorli with as definite an agreement as he can secure.

Florence, 18th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 19.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

612. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The morning of the day on which I sent my last despatch I took the road towards the Court, as I knew from the experience of last year that I should please his Majesty if I went to congratulate him on the anniversary of the day when his life was miraculously saved, a day kept as a holy day in this kingdom. I set out regardless of my pocket or my comfort, as I held this to be for your Excellencies' service to penetrate certain points as I have succeeded in doing, and also to cultivate the good understanding there is between his Majesty and your Excellencies. I made haste on the road, and when about thirty miles off, I sent on a messenger, who, through the Baron d'Ade (? Hay), presented my wishes for many happy returns of the day, and said that I would present them in person the day following in your Excellencies' name. The Baron discharged the task early next morning and the King expressed pleasure that I was so near, and as a proof he insisted that I should dine with him, and sent one of the royal carriages at once to meet me, with two of his gentlemen. The person I had sent ahead came back post, and I had to cover thirty miles that morning without drawing rein. I found his Majesty waiting me and he embraced me with a cheerful countenance and made a great show of affection. I replied in terms which seemed to me becoming, and I represented to him the genuine regard felt for him by your Excellencies and added such terms of

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praise as please him. When we had taken our seats at table his Majesty was pleased to drink, with hat in hand, to the health of him who serves you. The conversation turned on many subjects and I will presently report it. In the same room a little way off the Duke of Lennox dined at another table, along with many of the nobility. After dinner, which took a long time and was very merry, I passed a short while with his Majesty, who then withdrew, and I at the proper moment demanded audience to take my leave. I was told I must stay on as his Majesty desired my company again in the evening at supper, and this took place with such honours as your Excellencies could not desire more. Lord Hay, on his Majesty's express orders, stayed with me and accompanied me about all that day, as did General Cecil. I waited on his Majesty close to his bedchamber, and then with a profound reverence I was about to take my leave when his Majesty said, "Good night; be happy till to-morrow morning, when we shall meet again." I was then taken in two of the royal carriages and attended by the same gentlemen who had met me to another Palace hard by. Next morning the King passing by called for me and received me close to himself in the carriage. After twelve miles' drive we came to a palace of the Earl of Exeter called Apthorp, where I dined with his Majesty and had conversation with him both before and after. Knowing that some of my horses, especially the carriage horses, were in a very bad way, and indeed some of them died from the forced journey I had to make to be in time to serve his Majesty and your Excellencies, he insisted that the next day I should use one of the only two carriages he has for his own service. I took my leave of the King, and the Earl of Exeter on his Majesty's command took me to see another palace* which is certainly the most beautiful of this kingdom. There I was entertained that evening and the next day I was brought in the royal carriage to Belvoir (Beover) at the hour appointed by the Prince for my audience, to which I am just about to go, and I will duly report. Each time that I have had the honour to eat with his Majesty the meal has been sumptuous; the first day in particular in the morning in a splendid apartment; that same evening, though night had fallen, we supped in a delicious garden; on both occasions there was a concert of voices and instruments. His Majesty's conversation turned on his resolve to maintain his alliance with your Excellencies. He expressed sorrow for the death of his Serenity, whose heroic qualities he extolled in those terms and with that warmth which he can employ when he pleases. He asked me who would succeed, and I replied that whoever succeeded would always remain a true friend. This was said aloud, and aloud the King replied that the interests of both powers were the same. These remarks were approved by the nobility and gentry, who, to a large number, stood around the King and filled the place. He then went on to speak of Scotland and the bad condition in which that kingdom was, owing to its having been for long without rain. He added that owing to the drowth the tops of many mountains were on fire, a sight that had never been seen heretofore. The Elector Palatine will be here in a month; he added that this match is not pleasing to the Spanish. He showed

* Probably Burleigh.

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that he was annoyed at the prolonged stay of the Spanish Ambassador Extraordinary. He expressed a doubt about Cleves. The Palatine's Ambassador is bringing confirmation of all that was established by his Ambassadors and by de Bouillon about the match, that his Majesty may impose what terms he likes, and the Palatine is only waiting his Majesty's command to come here, as everything is ready. The Envoy will return with a full confirmation of the match and a decisive answer about Cleves and Juliers, which is so important a point for all the Confederate Princes.

I must not omit to say that in the course of this journey, which covers more than a hundred miles from London, I have seen the most beautiful, rich and populous country that one could wish to behold. This confirms my opinion of the power of this Sovereign, for last year I saw almost as large a tract in the other direction and that too very rich. (*Non devo tacere all' Ecc. V.V. che nel progresso di questo camino, che è hormai di cento e più miglia da Londra, ho veduto il più bello, ricco et habitato paese che si possa desiderare; da che mi vado confermando della gran potenza di questa Maestà havendo l'anno passato vedutone quasi altretanto dall' altra parte del Regno tutto richissimo.*) Everywhere that the King lodged there have been found truly royal apartments; and as the nobility and gentry flocked in from the neighbouring country, the Court has been crowded and much fuller than it is in London. His Majesty's charges are borne by the owners of the houses where he lodges; their splendour, both on account of the number of servants and of the table with its decorations and its plate, off which every one eats, surpass all belief. The sumptuous food and the abundance of comfits which they consume is amazing; nor could the greatest monarch in the world, inside his own royal palace, shine with greater pomp. I was astonished; and the cost far exceeds that of the Court when in London or neighbouring palaces. I have found rooms prepared for me and my suite here, on the King's orders, and a couple of his own servants, who look after all the supplies. This palace is built like a great castle and stands on lofty ground called Belvedere; it is surrounded by great walls abounding in courtyards, halls and galleries and an infinite number of chambers, capable of housing the more distinguished part of two Courts as large as these of the King and of the Prince, which number upwards of one thousand mouths. (*È questo Palazzo in forma d'un gran Castello in sito emminente, detto Belvedere, circondato di gran muraglie, richissimo di cortili, salle, gallerie et una infinità di stanze capaci per ricevere la parte più florida di due Corti così grande come sono quelle del Rè et Principe, che sono di mille et più boche.*) The tables for persons of quality number four and hold about two hundred. The Earl, its master, who has just come into it, lives like a sovereign. I have not failed to scatter largess, wherever I went, with a liberal hand, as becomes a representative of your Excellencies; so that they infinitely supersede the ordinary expenses of a journey staying at inns.

Belvoir, in Lincolnshire, 19th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Aug. 19.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

613. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Sir Henry Wotton, returned from his Embassy to Savoy, has made vigorous proposals in the name of his Highness—offering his third daughter for the Prince. He promises as a dower five hundred thousand crowns, to be paid by Piedmont and Savoy, who will be willing to do so in such a cause. He adds offers of absolute dependence on this Crown, and on no other King. Wotton has laboured for long to impress the King favourably towards the Duke, and to secure a good answer. Both on the part of Florence and of Savoy there are few claims put forward on behalf of the Catholic religion. Both King and Queen think it desirable to marry the Prince as soon as possible, as his Highness has begun to show a leaning to a certain lady of the Court. *The question of a confederation has been broached as well.* Report that your Excellencies' alliance with the Grisons has been broken off through the action of the French and the use of Spanish gold. He also told me that in Spain ill-will has been bred because some French have killed a Spanish person of importance.

The King desires to re-establish the bishops in Scotland, and to rebuild the ruined churches, also to make that Puritan religion conform to this Protestant religion, which is much nearer the true Catholic faith. The Duke of Lennox, who enjoyed the revenues of the See of St. Andrews, has resigned them into the hands of the King, and the other great nobles will follow his example. The English Parliament will certainly meet in the course of a couple of months. The King will issue the summonses only a few days before the date of convocation, as he hopes in this way the more easily to obtain what he desires.

Belvoir, in Lincolnshire, 19th August, 1612.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Aug. 19.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

614. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

*The King told me in strict confidence that he had arrested two Jesuits in the house of the Spanish Ambassador.** *He thinks that they are agents from the Order to offer to the Ambassador the services of the Jesuits, who are numerous in this kingdom, should he ever require them. The King thinks that this prolonged stay of the Ambassador Extraordinary, when there is no business for him to do, is directed to bad aims. There are two points where there is a doubt, first lest there should be a rising in Ireland, second lest there should be some attempt against his own person; this last point he dwelt on to me in very clear language. I implored his Majesty to be on his guard. He lamented the miserable state of this century, wherein on the plea of*

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Aug. 3. Abbot to the King. Zuniga has removed to the house of the Lieger. Alonzo de Velasco, in the Barbican. that he may more freely transact his secret business. One of the Jesuits arrested was Blackman, confessor of the English colleges at Rome and Valladolid. Two other Jesuits. Blount and Pelham, were sought for. Jones the actual Superior, and Holtby the late Superior, were then in London. Blackman was kept a close prisoner in the Gatehouse.

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charity they sought to make away with sovereigns. The Council has ordered a watch on all those who, by day or night, enter or leave the Spanish Ambassador's house, and so they hope to take sufficient precautions for the safety of the King, who, for the rest, neither cares nor fears. The two Jesuits have been tried, and the orders issued by the Archbishop must by this time have been put in execution.

The Earl of Exeter and his son General Cecil told me that the Grand Duke, in offering his second sister for the Prince, had acted without consulting the Pope, and is now meeting with opposition.

Belvoir, in Lincolnshire, 19th August, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Aug. 19. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

615. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

News from France that there are negotiations for the marriage of the Prince of Wales to the second French Princess. This news is confirmed from England; while we hear that the King of Spain is offering the second Infanta.

Turin, 19th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

616. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

After the news of the Pope's refusal to grant the Grand Duke's request for leave to marry his second sister to the Prince of Wales, the Nuncio has had orders to inform the Queen so that in case she entertains the idea of giving the second Princess to the Prince of Wales, she may know the Pope's mind on the matter. The same warning will be given in Spain and at every Catholic Court. The Queen has so far shown that she did not think the Tuscan negotiations were so far advanced. But we are advised from England that the King may prefer a Tuscany match to an alliance with either Crown from a dread lest the Prince if allied with either might become too bold and lose the respect due to his Father.

Paris, 21st August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 23. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

617. To the Ambassador in France.

We have been informed by our representatives in Istria and Dalmatia that the Uscocks have been very troublesome in disturbing the navigation of the Gulf, on the ground of a forged document bearing the seals of San Marco, and declaring that we were allied with them against the Turk. There have been brushes between the Uscocks and our officers. One of our governors was taken prisoner to Segna. The Archduke Ferdinand has sent the Governor of Fiume to complain about our orders issued for the vindication of the national honour.

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The same to England, Savoy, Constantinople, Milan and Florence.

Ayes	78.	Second vote	Ayes	71.
Noes	3.		Noes	4.
Neutrals	82.		Neutrals	90.

Put to vote suppressing the information to Constantinople.

Ayes 143. Noes 1. Neutrals 9.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 25. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

618. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Their Highnesses know the injury done to the negotiations for a match with England by the delay on the Pope's part. His Holiness says he wishes to assure himself of the King's promises, so that the Catholic religion may not be exposed to still further injury in that kingdom by being made ridiculous in the eyes of the world. He, therefore, says he must wait to hear what more Lotti reports; and we do not know that he has arrived yet in London. The Grand Duke has sent two messengers by different roads to urge him to take care that the Duke of Savoy does not now begin to press his offer of the Princess Maria for the Prince.

Florence, 25th August, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 26. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

619. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The terms of the treaty between France and Spain. No word *of a defensive alliance, so as not to alarm other sovereigns, but I do not doubt that under the term "good understanding" or some other phrase the obligation to mutual defence is implied. I am not surprised that this should be denied, for it does not suit France to rouse suspicion in the Huguenots nor to shake the confidence of the King of England, the United Provinces and the Federate Princes of Germany.*

There is news of the difficulty the Pope raises in the way of the Anglo-Tuscan match, but the Tuscan Ambassador says he still has hopes. *M. de Pisiurs declared that if the King of England did assent to this match he would certainly grant liberty of conscience.*

Madrid, 26th August, 1612.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Aug. 27. Consiglio de' Dieci, Parti Communi. Venetian Archives.

620. That the jewels of the Sanctuary and the Armoury of the Council of Ten be shown to certain English gentlemen.

Ayes 14.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Sept. 1.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

621. Tomaso Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

They are awaiting the result of Secretary Lotti's negotiations in England on the subject of the Florentine match. There are not wanting those who declare that the matter is disturbed not so much by Spain as by Savoy. Don Giovanni and the Grand Duke's party, however, affirm that the marriage is not merely in a good way but is absolutely concluded. Monsignore Vulpio is back from Florence. He merely brings assurance of the Grand Duke's regard for the Pope, and his great wish for his Holiness' consent.

Rome, the first of September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 1.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

622. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The longer the news of Lotti's arrival in England is delayed, the more suspicious do their Highnesses grow as to the action of Savoy, who though he cannot prevent the match may still delay it, which would please the Spanish, who, though not overtly hostile, do not like to see their Highnesses leaning on anyone but themselves. After Monsig. Vulpio's return to Rome a message has been sent thanking the Grand Duke for his friendly attitude towards his Holiness and saying that as regards the match they should wait for larger offers from England, and then decide as may best suit the dignity of the Holy See and the Christian commonwealth.

Two English vessels are on the point of leaving Ma'amura. Though they give out that they are going trading, it is generally supposed that they are bent on piracy.

Florence, the first of September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 3.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

623. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

A courier has arrived from England in only seven days, and what makes it more remarkable is that he really started from a place a whole day's distance from London, where his Majesty now is. Wotton is reported to have shown himself very cold in Savoyard interests. It was necessary to rouse him by the promise of twenty-five thousand crowns, made to him by Gabaleone. The preliminary conditions have come to hand; first, a dower of seven hundred thousand crowns; second, the way of paying this dower; third, that the question of Geneva and Bern be referred to the King.

Turin, 3rd September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Sept. 3.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

624. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The marriage contract between Spain and France provides a dower of a million francs, equal to three hundred and thirty-three thousand crowns. The contract was at once sent in copy to England.

Paris, 3rd September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 4.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

625. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador, on his Master's orders, has lately spoken vigorously to the Queen and the Ministers on the subject of the Scottish soldiers of the Guard. He produced letters written by the King's own hand so warmly expressed that finally, in spite of the previous resolution, he has obtained the complete restoration of the soldiers, to the great increase of his Master's prestige. The question of the debt due from France to England is now being actively discussed. The matter is complicated by the fact that it affects the United Provinces, upon whom they seek to saddle the larger part of the debt, though on the other hand they do not wish to see the Dutch too deeply engaged to England, which, apart from this debt, claims other three millions from them.

Paris, 4th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 4.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

626. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Lesdiguières and de Bouillon have at last been reconciled to the Huguenots, chiefly by the interposition of the English Ambassador. This has roused suspicion.

Paris, 4th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 7.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

627. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:

I have been unwell for some days and am still rather weak; this has prevented me from attending on your Serenity, a fact which adds to my sorrow. Now, by your leave and on the advice of my doctors, I propose to go for a change of air. I shall not, however, go so far away that I could not return here immediately to receive your commands. My intent is to go to Padua,* to enjoy that city which is much to my taste. I do so all the more readily as his Majesty is far away from London, and until he returns to the city I do not expect any business of moment.

* *See* Birch. *Court and Times of James I.* 1195, Aug. 12. "I am now on the point of taking a house at Padua, both for the benefit of that air and opportunity of exercise."

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The Doge approves of the choice of Padua, where the air is perfect and the doctors also perfect. If the Ambassador should require aught they will oblige him as representing so friendly a sovreign. The Ambassador takes advantage of the Doge's kindness to beg a favour; it refers to a certain petition presented by a Fra Vicenzo Marino, who is now in the galleys at Rovigno. The petition runs thus:

"Most Illustrious and honoured Prince,

When I left Constantinople there was handed to me a letter addressed to the King of England with a most earnest request that I should hand it to no one except your Lordship; the consigner of this letter added that he would never have trusted such a letter to my hands had it not been for his close friendship for me. I, wishing to serve my friend, have always declined to give the letter to anyone. It is more than a year that this letter is in my hands. True it is that, this April when our galley—upon which I am under sentence of Thomas Glover, late Ambassador at Constantinople, which is a great treachery to myself and to the King—came to Caorle, I sent a letter to your Lordship telling you of this letter addressed to the King. I believe my letter was never delivered. Now that our galley is at Rovigno, where we are to stay some days, I warn your Lordship to send a person you can trust to receive the said letter, otherwise I will not hand it over as I know it contains secrets of high importance. Let the bearer bring this with him for token. Nothing more. I salute your Lordship. The galley I am on board is that of the noble Nicolo Gabriel.

Rovigno, 9th July."

Addressed to the Illustrious Lord the Ambassador of England, Venice.

The Ambassador went on to say that in matters of State he was little inclined to trust Friars, nor was he wont to lend an ear to persons in the galleys. "This man is both a Friar and in the galleys, and your Serenity may imagine how much confidence I place in him. But since it is possible that he may have letters of great importance for my Sovereign I must not fail in my duty to secure all I can for his Majesty's service. It is true this fellow says I am to send a person of confidence and to find a sure way of conveying the letter, and I think there is no person more in my Master's confidence or better able to provide the safe means than your Serenity. I therefore beg you to accept this mission for his Majesty's service and to give such orders to your representatives as may seem necessary for placing the letter in my hands. In his Majesty's name I promise every kind of recognition."

The Doge replied that the request was a small one compared with what they were ready to do to please his Majesty. The necessary orders would be given.

The Ambassador went on to say that he would prefer another request on behalf of his Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople about the deposit made in the office of the *Proveditori alli X Officii*,* as he thought the matter had been drawn out longer than usual.

* An office established in 1404 for the revision of the accounts of all Government offices that received revenue.

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The Doge said they would hasten the presentation of the report on the case.

The Ambassador gives some news which he has from Holland and Flanders. In Flanders they are making unwonted provision of men and money. He thinks this means some intended movement on the part of Spain in Italy, and of this he has confirmation from Palermo and Sicily. Troops are being mustered in Milan. He had thought it his duty to make this communication and begs for confirmation if the Doge possess it, as the interests of both countries are the same.

The Doge said he had heard of movements of troops due to the quarrel between Parma and Mantua.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

628. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I had audience of the Prince the day I wrote to you. After exchange of compliments he went on to speak of the death of the Doge Donato. He asked who would succeed him and whether the election would take place soon. The conversation then turned on voyages, the chace and other subjects of slight moment. In the evening I received a present and was conducted by the Duke of Lennox and the Earl of Rutland to my apartment, where, late in the evening, the King sent to congratulate me on the election of your Serenity, of which he had just received news from his Ambassador in Venice. Next morning, having already taken my leave of the King and the Prince, I set out, but shortly afterwards came orders and an invitation from the King that I should turn back; and so, escorted by persons of quality, I was taken, at the dinner hour, to the chamber where were his Majesty and his Highness, and presently we sat down to table. The banquet that day was more sumptuous than all the others. The King said that your ambassador must certainly be present, and enlarged in your praises. The King said that Prince Peretti was in London and enquired as to his qualities. He told me that the Prince of Modena had spoken very well of your Serenity both in France and in Germany, and that the expenses of his entertainment here had been very well invested.

I accompanied the King to his chamber and then took my leave, and also of the Prince and set out for London, where I found despatches from your Excellencies enclosing letters for the King which I will present next week at Windsor.

I have thought it advisable to visit Prince Peretti on his own account and out of regard for his connections. I asked him to dine on Friday, and, though I only know him by name, I invited him to lodge here. He saw the Queen and the Princess, and then left for France.

London, 7th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Sept. 7.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

629. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Dutch have signed a treaty with the Hanseatic Towns; they are to furnish fourteen thousand infantry, two thousand four hundred horse and fifty ships of war. The alliance is to last eight years, at which date the truce with Spain terminates. It is a defensive alliance against all hostile action. The cost to be borne equally by both parties. The fortifications of Mühlheim are advancing rapidly towards completion, notwithstanding the Imperial orders to the contrary.

The Dutch have been making a diligent muster of arms to see how many troops are actually in their service. The King will draw closer to the States.

The Elector Palatine is expected here and everything is being prepared for his reception. The Spanish Ambassador Extraordinary continues here on the plea that he is waiting for a courier he sent into Spain. This delay renders the King and the Government always more suspicious. The want of confidence between the King and Spain is growing towards diffidence. The whole kingdom desires war and the right of reprisals as under the late Queen, and if things go on like this in time they may come to open discord, then little affairs of arms, and then war, although the King naturally loves peace.

London, 7th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 7.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.
Expulsis Papalistis.

630. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The orders given in Lancaster were executed and many foreigners were expelled from the county, and arms taken away from some supporters of the Jesuits and stored in a place belonging to the King. Ten or twelve of them were arrested, some of whom have already reached London, and the others will be here soon. The Earl of Derby, Governor in those parts, has not carried out his orders with the rigour desired, still he has done enough. A few days ago two Jesuits were arrested while leaving the house of the Spanish Ambassador Extraordinary a little before day-break. On the first were found some notes and a paper on which were jotted certain memoranda which cannot be quite made out, all the same it was clearly stated that his Catholic Majesty had sent one hundred thousand crowns to his Ambassador; the other has written to one of the Fathers in the Ambassador's household a letter asking him to give two hundred crowns to the bearer, and begging him to greet the secretary and other members of the staff. This letter fell into the hands of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and he drew three important conclusions from it; one, certainty of familiar relations between the Jesuit and the Embassy; two, proof that there is abundance of money on which the Jesuit can*

* Decipher reads "dell ocastria" but cipher reads "g^{56} g^{41} z^{11} m^{11} n^{18} z^{10}"=in Lancastria.

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*draw; third, and most important, the handwriting of this letter is the same as that of the memoranda found on the first Jesuit. They hope to arrest two others and by their means to dispel the alarm of a conspiracy against the life of the King and the Prince which is largely the work of Jesuits.**

London, 7th September, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Sept. 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

631. Christoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Dutch Ambassador (L'Ambasciatore di Fiandra) here resident, after a long period of study and toil, has signed and established the Capitulations between his Masters and the Porte.† Imperial orders have accordingly been issued to all places and ports that Dutch Consuls are to be admitted and Dutch vessels well treated in the Turkish harbours when they arrive with goods and merchandize. The Ambassador encountered the greatest opposition from the French Envoy, who went the length of offering ten thousand sequins to upset the negotiations. And although the English Ambassador was displeased at seeing the successful issue of the affair, at first he took no steps; however, when he saw it far advanced he endeavoured to join with France, and on his side also offered to spend a similar sum for that same purpose. The French Ambassador knowing from the efforts he had already made that there was no hope of succeeding in this design, as the affair was on the very point of conclusion, refused to take any further part in the business and told the English Ambassador that he was too late. The Dutch Ambassador in face of the opposition he incurred, had recourse to presents and great donations, by means of which alone has he been able to succeed. He ran short of money and was forced to take from the Jews on credit many lengths of silk and woollens at ruinous prices, to meet his needs. As yet I have not been able to get a copy of these Capitulations, for they were drawn up and are kept by a secretary to the Divan who has always shown himself hostile to this Embassy. In a few days I hope to secure them by another channel. In substance, however, it is agreed that the Dutch shall pay five per cent. customs duty as do the French; he was not able to obtain the English tariff, which is three per cent. only on all goods and merchandize (convengono però in sostanza, che Fiaminghi siano tenuti pagar al Rè cinque per cento di Datio come pagano anco Francesi, non havendo potuto ottenere le condizioni d' Inglesi che sono di pagare tre di tutte le robbe et mercantie che da essi saranno portate et contrattate in questo paese). But what is of more importance and which remains agreed upon outside the Capitulations, is the offer and promise which the Ambassador made in his Masters' names, that whenever required they would furnish a large number of armed vessels with

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. 1611-1618, pp. 146, 147, 148. The Earl of Northampton writing to Rochester defends himself against accusations of sheltering Jesuits. Archbishop Abbot details the grounds on which he arrested a man calling himself John de Horneck on suspicion of being the Jesuit Abraham Vlaming, against whom Trumbull had laid informations, "a desperate fellow, and founder of an Order of Knighthood called the Order of Martyrdom." There was alarm lest ill-intentioned persons should come over in the train of the Palatine. *Ibid.* 152.

† *See* Dumont, *Corps Diplomatique*, Tom. v. part 2, p. 205.

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mariners and soldiers and munitions in abundance. And one of these past days the Ambassador, finding himself in audience with the Lieutenant Grand Vizir, succeeded in causing all present to be dismissed, leaving only the Dragoman and two of the Pasha's most intimate friends; he then proceeded to discuss at length the interests of the various Princes of Christendom, and finally bringing out a map, he expatiated with much detail upon several sites, pointing out to the Lieutenant the ease with which the Ottoman power could invade and attack Italy. The basis of his plan and of his discourse was that the Turk should prepare a powerful fleet, while the Dutch should put together two hundred ships, which he now offered to his Majesty for this purpose, and these could touch at Barbary and make the final provisions; the Dutch would then, at a given date, join the Turks, and make a concerted descent on Civita Vecchia, where they could easily land. He was at great pains to point out that all these places are open and incapable of offering any considerable resistance to an inundation. The Ambassador developed other most pernicious suggestions, but they could only be imperfectly overheard by those who stood some way off; this, however, was caught; he said the Grand Signor need not fear the Spanish fleet, for his Masters and their allies would attend to that. The Lieutenant paid close attention and seemed to approve. Then followed a series of questions and answers carried on in a low voice, and finally the Pasha said that this was not the moment to embark on such an enterprise, but that in two or three years the time would arrive. I was able to obtain this report of this secret interview as I have in my interests some of the Pasha's most intimate servants. I cannot, however, be sure whether all this was said on the orders of the Ambassador's Masters, or whether he thought in this way to assist his object of securing his Capitulations.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 7th September, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Sept. 8. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

632. Tomaso Contarini, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Giovanni de' Medici took leave of the Pope on Monday. Next morning he went to lodge at Bracciano, and on Wednesday he proceeded towards Florence. No one knows precisely what answer he takes as regards the English match. Most think that if not actually concluded it is all but so, unless the offices of Spain and Savoy upset it or cause it to be deferred.

Rome, 8th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 8. Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

633. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

News from Lotti is still delayed. There has been nothing from him since he reached Lyons on the eleventh of last month; he cannot press on because of the great heat and because he is not quite well.

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The Grand Duke's Confessor is back from Rome and says the Pope lets it be known that he is well-disposed towards the English match, provided the King of England will take his royal oath to allow the Princess the free exercise of her religion on the conditions demanded.

Florence, 8th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 10. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

634. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The courier from England was sent back again after only a night's rest, with the Duke's answer. He will pay the dower, though heavy, in order to conclude the business and to cut out Florence. He hopes Spain will help.

Turin, 10th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

635. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The heads of the Dutch Company trading to the East Indies have been for some days at the Hague and have sought leave to levy the import on all goods sent to those parts. They say they intend to fit out a large number of ships of war against Spain, to serve in the Indies as well. They declare that in face of recent events they do not intend to observe the terms of the truce. The answer of the States-General was very reserved, for the sum in question is a large one, and was intended for military purposes. The heads of the Company were, however, graciously received and they were encouraged on other points. They left the Hague with the full intention of arming thirty ships this year and as many next; and with these and other forces that are already there they will make war on Spain. The points they have obtained are two; the Company cannot be called on to refund capital for eleven years to come, nor during the said period shall they be bound to present a balance sheet or general account. It is thought that this ought to produce remarkable results and greatly facilitate the preparations.

The King has appointed an Ambassador* to the Emperor to reside for some time. He is to kiss hands in a few days and to leave at once. His mission beyond congratulations on succession will be to urge the cause of Brandenburg and Neuburg as regards the fortifications of Mühlheim. He is to use entreaty and prayers, as the King desires that all should pass off quietly; but if he finds the Emperor firm in his resolve to employ force, he is to say that his Majesty is bound by confederation to assist the "possessioners," and will do so. The Spanish Ambassador in ordinary told me that in France they would have liked the marriage of second children, but

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. Sept. 11, "Sir Stephen le Sieur going as Ambassador to the new Emperor."

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that all negotiations were broken off over certain difficulties. He complained that the French Ministers had not made vigorous representations to the States to come to peace with Spain and the Archduke, as they had promised to do.

Three days ago Lotti, the Florentine Secretary, was here. Yesterday he went to the King. He has returned in quality of agent and with a large increase of salary.

But for my ill-health, fever and pain in the side every time I breathe, I would have sought audience of the King ere this. I will discharge my duty as soon as I am well again.

London, 14th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 14. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

636. To the COMMANDER GABRIEL.

The Ambassador of the King of England has petitioned us that by means of letters which we enclose to serve as guide, certain other letters in the hand of Fra Vicenzo Marino who is on board your galley, should be recovered. You are instructed to recover these letters from the said Friar and to send them to us with a full report, so that we may meet the Ambassador's request as may seem best to us.

Ayes 126.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

637. TOMASO CONTARINI, Venetian Ambassador in Rome, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The other day the Florentine Ambassador told me that the English match will take place as desired by the Grand Duke. The bride, however, will not set out very soon, as they have promised the Pope to press the religious question as far as possible. Others, among them the French Ambassador, do not consider the matter so certain; they think the Florentines have announced it in order to show their weight with the Pope.

Rome, 15th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 15. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

638. DOMENICO DOMINICI, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Madame's Confessor back from Rome. Well received. Explains his action to induce the Pope to consent to the English match. The Pope desires to satisfy the Grand Duke, but also wishes guarantees from England. Lotti has been informed of all this. On the 27th of last month Lotti was in Paris; on the 30th he was to embark.

Florence, 15th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612. Enclosed in despatch of the 15th Sept.

639. A discourse on the dispensation sought from the Pope, for the marriage of the second Princess of Tuscany to the Prince of England.

The general opinion in the Vatican is that the Pope will not and cannot grant this dispensation.

Sept. 16. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

640. VICENZO GUSSONI, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the DOGE and SENATE.

That Genoese musician* of whom I have written on other occasions has arrived from England. His Highness employed him to give him news from England. He came viâ Holland, and it is said that on behalf of his Highness he offered the port of Villafranca for Dutch shipping. The Dutch are disposed to accept the offer.

Turin, 16th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

641. ZORZI GIUSTINIAN, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Ambassador of Brandenburg as soon as he has had his answer is to go on to England, where in his Master's name he will negotiate about the peace in Sweden. There is news from the Hague that the King of Sweden has routed the King of Denmark and slain three thousand foot, and the rest of his army is in danger, being surrounded in a difficult country.

Paris, 18th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 20. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

642. That when the ENGLISH AMBASSADOR comes to the CABINET the following be said to him :—

That having taken special information about the affair of Zuane Berton whom your Lordship commended to us, he being condemned by the *Proveditori sopra i X Officii*, we find it clear that the said Berton has deserved his punishment on account of the frequent frauds he has committed on the Customs; nevertheless, as a mark of our esteem, we have ordered that the said Berton shall be released from his sentence, feeling quite sure that your Lordship with your usual prudence will admonish him as he deserves, for a warning to others of his nation to abstain from similar acts, which as they are breaches of our law, must, we know, be opposed to his Majesty's intention.

Further, that the said Zuane Berton be released from the sentence passed upon him.

Ayes 162.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 12.

* Gioan Marco.

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Sept. 21.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

643. That the English Ambassador be invited to the Cabinet to hear what follows:—

My Lord Ambassador, over and above the other favours which his Majesty has shown in the past to our Republic, we are now informed by our Ambassador Foscarini of the many further honours he has bestowed on the Ambassador during the recent Progress, which honours have been accompanied by words of cordial and sincere regard towards us; we have therefore resolved to beg your Lordship to represent our gratitude to his Majesty.

That a copy of this resolution be sent to our Ambassador, that he may make similar representations to his Majesty.

Ayes 127.
Noes 5.
Neutrals 18.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 21.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

644. To the Ambassador in England.

Acknowledges receipt of despatch of the 19th August. Praises the Ambassador's conduct. States that the English Ambassador resident in Venice will be thanked the moment he returns. He is now out of town. Sends a copy of the resolution in favour of Berton, taken to please the Ambassador.

Ayes 127.
Noes 5.
Neutrals 15.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

645. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador in ordinary of Spain told me that the Pope had absolutely refused to the Grand Duke a dispensation for the marriage of his sister to the Prince of Wales. This he told me he had from the Pope's own lips, meaning that his Holiness had said so to the Spanish Ambassador in Rome. The French Ambassador gave me particulars. He said Don Giovanni asked for the papal assent, speaking as though the affair were concluded, and when the Pope refused it he said that he did not know whether it was possible to go back now that the marriage negotiations were so far advanced; whereupon the Pope, in great agitation, broke out into burning words, declaring that he would never permit it, that he could not and would not, that he would do all that in him lay to upset it—and continued in this flaming style. The Grand Duke sent off post haste to the Queen of France begging her to intervene with her authority in an affair which affected the exaltation of her house. The Queen replied that she was not aware that the marriage was so far advanced, almost as though she complained of not having been informed, and at the same time doubting whether the affair really stood so; and concluded that in a matter of this sort she would rather keep silence so as not to displease the Pope. The Grand Duke

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then renewed his request to the Pope, declaring that the affair was not so far advanced as had been said at first. But the Pope returned the same answer as before in strong terms. While matters were in this position the Grand Duke sent Secretary Lotti to England; it is still uncertain whether he brought apologies or spoke to his Majesty in other terms. We shall know when the Court or the Council arrive. What I have gathered from the Secretary and from others I will report in another despatch.

A good many days ago a Spanish priest arrived here with the intent to become a protestant. The Spanish Ambassador Extraordinary tempted him to the Embassy and he has not been seen since, nor has anything been heard of him. It is believed that they have either killed him or sent him secretly to Spain or Flanders. The Archbishop of Canterbury received last week orders from the King to demand his surrender by the Ambassador, with vigorous threats in case of refusal. The Archbishop did send, but I have not yet found out what answer he received, as the matter is kept very secret and my health is far from good. The continued sojourn of the Ambassador gives rise to great and lively suspicion and every day he gives or receives offence. (Già buoni giorni fù qui un prete Spagnolo per farsi della religione. L'Ambasciatore straordinario di Spagna, che ne hebbe aviso, fece con maniera che andò una mattina in casa sua nè più si è veduto o . . . . saputo nova di lui; credesi lo habbia fatto morri o mandato segretamente in Spagna o Fiandra. L'Arcivescovo di Canturberi hebbe l'altra settimana ordine dal Rè di domandarlo all'Ambasciatore, con alternative gagliarde; Ha l'Arcivescovo mandato; ma quale sia stata la risposta, non ho anco potuto (restando il negotio segretissimo) nella poca salute in che mi trovo, acertare; essendo grandissimo et gagliardo il sospetto che dà la dimora di esso Ambasciatore, il quale dà e riceve tutti li giorni disgusti.) He says he wishes to leave and hopes to do so soon, but everything depends upon the reply which he is expecting from his Master. He will leave with a very unfavourable disposition towards this kingdom.

London, 21st September, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Sept. 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

646. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

From the remarks of Lotti, and of others who may know, the hopes of the Tuscan match grow ever fainter. Lotti says the decision now lies with the King, as he knows what the Grand Duke can do and is willing to do. I know from a sure source that Lotti is in disgrace with the King and with General Cecil, who manages the affair. They reproach him for having represented at Rome and elsewhere that the match is concluded, which it never was. The Spanish Ambassador told me that the English expected the Princess to come without the right to the Catholic service and with a large sum of money. As to the former, the Grand Duke will take care of that, and as to the money, he wishes for a year's time in which to pay a part. As regards money I must inform your Excellencies that when Prince Peretti was here, he told me that

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the Grand Duke's capital did not exceed two or three millions, while the Ambassador Extraordinary of Spain thinks it is less.

The proposals of the Duke of Savoy are more acceptable and the affair proceeds better. The Prince leans that way because of the beauty of the Infanta, her youth and the spirited ideas of the Duke which resemble those of the Prince, and the ancient blood of the race. The Queen greatly desires this match now that she has lost all hope of a Spanish Infanta. The King is favourably disposed to the Duke on account of the respect shown by the demand of the Princess' hand for the Prince of Piedmont, and as he was unable to gratify the Duke in this respect, he is the more disposed to do so in others. The Duke's method is agreeable and is reckoned generous. He says the dower shall be whatever pleases the King who, he knows, will only ask what is possible and right. When Wotton and the Duke's Secretary first broached the subject couriers were sent to his Highness representing the King's good disposition. The couriers returned at once, and yesterday Wotton, the Secretary and a certain Gabaleone* went to Court. Gabaleone has been sent here on pretext of offering free port at Villa-franca, so that English ships should put in there rather than at Genoa; but the real object of his mission is the match.

I have received the news about the boldness of the Uscocks. I have used diligence to secure officers for your Excellencies' troops. Many have shown readiness. I shall await more particular orders, as to whether your Excellencies desire officers of repute or only ordinary soldiers. To-day I have sent to Lewkenor to ask for audience.

London, 21st September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 22. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

647. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

A rumour has been spread that Don Pedro de Zuñiga had received little satisfaction in England during his negotiations about Virginia, a part of the West Indies occupied by an English Company which settled there some years ago and has now grown considerably and built a fort, with the intent to open trade with England. In reply to his request that the English should arrest the progress of the Company, so as to avoid a collision, as his Majesty could not allow them to advance to the prejudice of his own interests, the English answered that they could not fail to support the Company. *I endeavoured to find out the truth during a visit I paid to the English Ambassador, who treats me with great confidence. The Ambassador said that he was not aware that Don Pedro had touched on the question of Virginia. I seemed to gather that the English were not a little alarmed at the union of France and Spain and would do what was possible to avoid a rupture. I understand that the King will not support the Company openly, as he counts more on the profits to be derived from the new route to the Indies than on*

* Gabaleone, a Banker, employed by the Duke as agent in these affairs. *See* Birch, *Life of Prince Henry*, p. 311, and Cal. S.P. Dom., 1611-1618, p. 157.

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that which will accrue from Virginia. As to the Florentine match for the Prince, the Ambassador spoke dubiously. Ridolfi, the Emperor's Ambassador, has announced the election. The Infante Don Alonso is dead. As the male descent is now reduced to three there is talk of the King marrying again. The country leans to a Princess of Savoy.

Madrid, 22nd September, 1612.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Sept. 22. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

648. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

They are awaiting news of Lotti's arrival in England, so that they may learn the decision of the King as regards the match.

At Leghorn four English vessels laden with various goods, chiefly grain, have arrived. One is on the point of leaving for Lisbon and one for Alicante.

Florence, 22nd September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 22. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

649. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Pedro di Zuñiga has received his orders to retire from England. Although they continue to declare that there are strained relations over Virginia and Florida, *still it is expected that all will pass off quietly.*

Madrid, 22nd September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 23. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

650. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

There arrrived here last week an English Baron of importance. He was made much of by his Highness, as it is understood that he is a Gentleman of the Chamber to the Prince of Wales and high in his favour. This gentleman gives out that he is travelling for his pleasure, to see Italy; all the same it is thought that he has been sent to make sure, secretly, of the beauty of the Infanta Maria, who is destined as wife to the Prince. This view is confirmed, as he says he is going straight to Florence, which is interpreted as a mission to inspect that Princess also. He had an opportunity to see this Princess one day she was going out in her carriage—on purpose perhaps. They are in great hopes that this match will take place, though they find the dower heavy and the settlement difficult. I am assured from a good source that Count Francesco Martinengo has a commission to treat on this subject with the Governor of Milan, to induce him to approach the King of Spain with a view to his assisting the Infanta by paying part of the dower.

Turin, 23rd September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Sept. 29.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

651. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The length of these negotiations for the marriage of the second Princess and the English Prince keeps the minds of their Highnesses anxious.

Florence, 29th September, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 1.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

652. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

His Highness has further letters from England confirming the good disposition of his Majesty towards the match. They confirm his Highness in his resolve to see the matter through, and to assent to the seven hundred thousand crowns of dower, and even to go to a million, should others attempt to outbid him.

Turin, the first of October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 2.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

653. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of Brandenburg is still here and is in frequent conference with the English Ambassador.

Paris, 2nd October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 2.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

654. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

"Most Serene Prince, and thrice Illustrious and Excellent Lords, his Majesty's great affection has caused me to return to this City, I will not say sooner than I desired, but sooner than I intended in view of my cure. For hardly had he heard of your Serenity's accession to the headship of the Republic than he sent me orders at once, notwithstanding that he was on his annual Progress, that I was to present the accompanying letters and to offer all suitable congratulations."

He then proceeds to compliment the Doge on his merits, ability, and handsome presence, a quality highly appreciated by all. He calls Venice the buttress of Italy (*spalla d'Italia*). The King repeats his friendship and promises his support on all occasions; and at the present moment when there are those who on the plea of religion or for love for peace are "spreading the lion's skin over the fox," the actual words of the King himself, he promises the devotion of his sons as well. Though the envious go about saying that owing to the distance this alliance can yield but little fruit, basing their observation on the remark of the ancient, "penitus toto divisos orbe Britannos," this is in truth to talk like an old fellow, for it ignores the facility with which a union can be effected,

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thanks to our great wooden bridges (*ponti di legno*). In six weeks only they sail from London to Venice, and so the Republic may rely on help on all occasions. When all Europe was united against the Republic, England alone kept aloof from the impious league, and, if anything, helped to break it up by threatening to set fire to the houses of those who were trying to kindle a blaze abroad. To prove that all this is not superfluous and even impertinent, there is the fact of his Majesty's displeasure at the Grisons for withdrawing from their alliance with Venice.

The Doge replied in complimentary terms and then caused to be read a resolution of the Senate tendering thanks for the favours shown to the Ambassador Foscarini.

The Ambassador answers, praising Foscarini, especially for having followed the King on Progress to his own expense and inconvenience.

The Doge then said that the Senate had resolved to free Zuane Berton from the sentence of the *Proveditori sopra i X Officii.*

The Ambassador returned thanks and said he would inform the English Ambassador in Constantinople.

The Ambassador asked that the resolution of the Senate expressing thanks for the treatment of Foscarini might be re-read to him in the Senate Chamber. That was done, the rules of the Republic forbidding copy of any resolution being given to anyone. Some English gentlemen were then introduced to see the Chambers of the Ducal Palace and passed from the Senate Hall to that of the Cabinet to see the Doge sitting with the other Lords.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 3. Collegio, Secreta. Lettere. Venetian Archives.

655. To the Ambassador in England.

You are to present our thanks to the King for favours shown you in the same terms as we have thanked his Ambassador here. Copy of resolution enclosed.

Ayes 19.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 5. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

656. To the Ambassador in England.

Besides what we wrote to you in our despatch of the 3rd, we send you, along with this, a copy of what the English Ambassador said to us in Cabinet on the 2nd. You are to thank his Majesty for the offers he has made.

Ayes 112.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Oct. 5.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

657. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The pain in the side and the fever increased on me and I was obliged to suspend my audience, which, however, I have had to-day. I presented the letters announcing your Serenity's accession. The King told me he had given orders to write to congratulate your Serenity. He then went on to talk of the Uscocks, and blamed those who encouraged that rapacious race. I touched upon the question whether his Majesty would assist your Excellencies. The King paused and looked at me and said, "Yes, by my faith." He asked how the differences between Mantua and Parma were going, and told me that Mantua had sent him the plans of a certain place and the grounds of her claim. He told me that, in the audience granted yesterday, the Ambassador Extraordinary of Spain had taken his leave without putting forward any sort of business, or saying a word as to the cause of his having stayed on here so long. I could see that the King was suspicious of the Spanish Ambassadors and annoyed at Spanish modes of proceeding.

The Tuscan match makes little progress. Savoy continues to show the greatest regard for the English Crown; making large offers and having sent ample powers. In Germany there is no possible bride for the Prince save a Princess of Brandenburg, to whom he shows little inclination. A German match would not gain him anything, as all the German Princes are allied to him or to the Queen by blood.

London, 5th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 5.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

658. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King told me that the Secretary Lotti, excusing the Grand Duke for having spoken to the Pope about the marriage, declared that if the King would receive the Grand Duke under his protection the marriage would be carried out against the wishes of the Pope. The King let me see that he thinks the Grand Duke may come to some secret understanding with the Pope.

He told me in strict confidence that he had full information in writing of all that took place at each meeting of the Cardinals upon the subject of the match. The report said that from lions they had grown to be lambs.

I am assured from a sound source that Lotti, endeavouring to excuse his Master and himself, denied that they had ever written to Rome to say that any promise had ever fallen from the lips of the King; but on the other hand the King has had a copy of such a statement which was made in Consistory, extracted from the minutes of the proceedings. I gathered from the King's remarks that if the marriage took place his Majesty hopes to add the Duke to the number of his allies; as to the copy of what took place in the Consistory, he assured me he actually had it, but did not say how he came by it.

London, 5th October, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

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1612.
Oct. 5.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

659. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Dutch preparations for thirty ships of war are going on, and the States have determined to add two thousand infantry in addition to the same number in the pay of the Company.

Don Emmanuel of Portugal who, on the advice of the States, accepted the pension offered by the King of Spain, as he has not yet received it, sent a sharp message to the Archduke; and if this does not produce the desired effect either he or at least his brother will embark on board the Company's fleet, feeling sure that he will meet with a friendly attitude among those Portuguese who are in charge of that part of the East Indies that used to be in the possession of their King.

The "possessioners" have fortified and garrisoned Mühlheim. They are determined to defend it and the States will assist them and so will the other confederates. They have not yet had a reply from the Emperor, and in the meantime Brandenburg, in particular, prepares for every eventuality as does Neuburg, but with less alacrity. The Ambassador (Le Sieur) whom the King is sending to the Emperor, has taken his leave and by this time may even have left. He is charged to see many of the German Princes and the Elector of Saxony in particular, whom he is, in the King's name, to invite to peaceful counsels. Le Sieur has only a small suite, so as to be able to move about the more freely as occasion requires.

The French Ambassador tells me that in Germany, there is a large party in favour of war against the Turk, and in the Diet the proposal will be brought forward; but no resolution will be taken, which would be unpleasing to France. He thought it undesirable that as long as the Turk was quiet, the Emperor under the shelter of Spain should amass troops which he might turn to his own purposes in Germany or against anyone else that it suited him.

London, 5th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 6.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

660. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Their Highnesses are watching with a jealous eye the negotiations of Savoy for an English match.

Florence, 6th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 15.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

661. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I forward accounts for couriers and postage during the time of my journey from Paris and my residence here, eighteen months in all.

London, 15th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Oct. 15.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

662. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Protestant Princes, suspicious of the alliance between France and Spain, are drawing closer together. The Queen is trying to reassure them. She is greatly disturbed at the close understanding between the English and the Dutch; she tried underhand, but without result, to prevent Prince Maurice from receiving the Garter; nor does she like the marriage of the Palatine to the Princess, and still less the marriage of the Infanta of Savoy to the Prince. She thinks that all these tend to render England head of that party which in the late King's lifetime depended entirely on France.

Paris, 15th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 15.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

663. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

To the few favours and many annoyances the Ambassador Extraordinary of Spain has received in England, this must be added—that a few days ago at the Custom-house a case with his name on it was opened,* the books and other contents ill-treated and the case refused to him when he sent for it. This has so exasperated him that he has had recourse to the Earl of Northampton by letter, at the close of which he says in terms of agitation that he will report all to Spain and threatens Spanish resentment. The Earl sent the letter on to the King, who took no notice of it, remarking that this was an affair of the Custom-house officers, in which he could not interfere. Nevertheless the day following he sent a stag to the Ambassador, who may receive some other satisfaction, as it seems that right and courtesy both require.

The Ministers of Savoy have offered his Majesty free arbitration in the case of the Bernese and their claim to Vaud, supposing the match takes place; also in case of the Genevese. This offer pleases the King, though others who are ill-affected to the Duke declare that the King should keep his eye on this Savoyard Ambassador called Gabaleone or "Trick the Lion," for the lion is the cognisance of England.

The Palatine will not be here before the 14th of next month. The affairs of Germany, the death of the Count of Hanau, and the sojourn of the Spanish Ambassador here are the causes of this delay. He has been assigned an apartment in each of the Royal Palaces besides being given the Palace of the Earl of Essex, which is perhaps the richest and largest in the town. They are preparing jousts and tourneys to keep Christmas in state; at Easter and not earlier it is thought that the betrothal will take place.

Captain Eston† (*Excen*), a famous pirate, who haughtily refused the pardon offered by his Majesty, declaring that he would not bow

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1612, 29th Sept.

† *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Feb. 6, 1612, "grant to Peter Eston, William Harvey, etc., of pardon for piracy." Nov. 26, 1612. "The grant to Peter Eston and his men, pirates of pardon on condition of their returning the ship 'Concord' and the goods taken in it, and the 'Bonaventure.' Renewed because former pardon never reached Eston, he being near Newfoundland."

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to the orders of one King when he himself was, in a way, a King as well, has sailed with ten great warships to Newfoundland where there are usually to be found a large number of fishing craft. He has taken every fifth man and also a fifth of the provisions, which were abundant, and with these he has sailed towards the East Indies with intent to lie in wait for the Spanish *flotta*. This is reported by one of these ships on board of which were a large number of hands who wished to change their career, and so slew the remainder, and, aided by the wind and parted by the storm, sought shelter in here last week. (*Il Capitan Excen, corsaro di gran nome et che ricusò il perdono di sua Maestà con parole altere, dicendo non voler egli ceder al commandamento d'un Rè mentre era in certo modo Rè egli stesso, è passato con dieci gran navi de guerra verso Terra nuova ove sono d'ordinario vasselli in gran numero che pescano; ha lor levato d'ogni cinque huomini uno et anco il quinto delle vittovaglie che son state molte, et continua il suo progresso verso le Indie orientali con risolutione di insidiar le flotte di Spagna. Così riferisce uno di dette navi, che havendo buon numero di gente desiderosa di cangiar vita, con morte degl'altri, aiutata dal vento separata per fortuna dall'altre ricoverò qui la settimana passata.*)

The Ambassador Extraordinary of Spain ought to be leaving soon, though he puts off from day to day. It is quite certain that he was charged to make the proposals and requests which I reported, but was prevented by the King, who cut short the audience. The knowledge that he would only meet with a rebuff induced him to send to Spain for further orders, and these are now arrived, to the effect that he is to conclude his mission in silence. The Lieger has ceased to demand the restitution of the plundered ships; his last attempt, about the carvel, proving vain. They do not intend to deprive those who have suffered at the hands of Spain of the means of making reprisals; they will find grounds for excusing such action. The ill humour on both sides is growing.

London, 15th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 15. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

664. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Giovanni de' Medici is said to have come back from Rome with an unsatisfactory answer from the Pope about his consent to the Anglo-Florentine marriage. The proposal, however, is still on foot. The Grand Duke has assured the Pope that he would always postpone any aggrandisement of his House to the pleasure of his Holiness. *I understand that the Grand Duke is seeking to break off this negotiation on the plea of the Pope's opposition, in order to please Spain, which will not consent to an alliance between Tuscany and England no more than between Savoy and England.*

Madrid, 15th October, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

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Oct. 15.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

665. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

As to what Don Pedro de Zuñiga reports from England, that they have sent two hundred and eighty thousand crowns to Virginia, and mean to send two thousand men to build another fort upon a river, and that if the English get a footing there they will open a port on the sea whence pirates can infest the India navigation, the Council of State has met and resolved to send a commission expressly to Virginia to take plans and to consult with the Spanish resident there as to the best way to expel the English, who, Don Pedro says, will offer a stout resistance.

Madrid, 15th October, 1612.

[*Italian ; deciphered.*]

Oct. 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

666. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador in England reports that certain captains have joined Don Robert Sherley and fitted out four great ships to sail to Persia, nominally, but really to go buccaneering. They have accordingly resolved to send warning to the Indies.

Madrid, 18th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 20.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

667. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I have received at the same time two sets of despatches dated the 15th and the 21st of last month. The first contain information about the Uscocks; the second contain the resolution of the Senate to thank the English Ambassador for the favours shown me by the liberation of Zuan Berton on the Ambassador's request.

The Savoy ministers have been to Hampton Court, whither the King summoned the Council twice to deliberate on the reply to be given them. Finally Wotton moved that before proceeding any further the Duke must grant three points; first, not to attempt anything against Geneva; second, that he should state the dower; third, that he should formulate the Infanta's claims as regards religion. Gabaleone having retired for a bit and minutely examined his instructions, replied that as to Geneva he was ready to promise that the King would receive every satisfaction from the Duke; the dower would be that which the King might name; as for religion the Princess claimed nothing more than private service for herself and her suite in her own rooms. Yesterday the final resolution was taken. I have not yet found out what it is, but in five or six days the envoys are to leave, and they are now making their adieus to the Ministers. I understand that the King felt bound, as head of the Protestant faith, to mention Geneva, but he has no intention of interfering with the Duke's rights. As regards the dower there was, according to Wotton, some mention by the Duke of five hundred thousand crowns. As to religion they will take care that the coming of the Infanta shall cause no alteration in that respect;

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the object is to prevent the Duke from withdrawing should Spain, with a view to upsetting this match, ask the hand of the Infanta for himself. Lotti went to Hampton Court the same day that this answer was given to the Envoys of Savoy, and Ciorli, who left many days ago with letters from the King, Queen and Prince in answer to the Grand Duke's letters, will soon be at Florence.

The King has recent letters from the Elector Palatine in which he confirms his arrival on the 14th of next month, and may-be sooner. The reason for his delay, beyond the reasons I have already given, is that he thinks as an Elector he ought to inform the Emperor of his departure from Germany, and of his betrothal. The Duke of Deuxponts, the administrator, performed this task, and Cesar, who has been persuaded by Spinola that this marriage may bring about great prejudice to the House of Austria, has shown surprise and has delayed his answer. Whatever happens, the match will come off. It was not a duty but merely a courtesy of the Elector to inform his Cesarean Majesty. The King has issued orders for the Palatine's reception along the route; and close to London he will be met by the Court, the nobility and, on the King's special orders to the Mayor, by five hundred of the richest citizens of London. The moment he touches the island the King, who is at Royston, will be informed, and will post to London so as to be here before him. The Palatine has sent various jewels in a present to the Prince, especially a ring with a diamond worth thirty thousand crowns; in return he has received one of greater value and other presents as well.

London, 20th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 20. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

668. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Spanish Ambassadors came to visit me; the Extraordinary took his leave saying he must stay here one night and that he wished he could leave at once. He received thirty pieces of silver gilt in a present from his Majesty, worth about four thousand crowns. I returned his visit, expecting to find him on the point of departure, but he is still here.

The English Ambassador to the Emperor (Le Sieur) has left. He has a special mission to visit the Landgrave of Hesse. He is to find out the Emperor's intentions, and, if need be, new orders will be sent him. An Ambassador from the Elector of Brandenburg is expected here about the affairs of Cleves. He will discuss not merely defence and war, if necessary, but also the way in which it shall be waged. He is at present in France, where he has urged the Queen to assist his Master against the Landgrave. His first answer pleased him little. The Queen pointed out to him that the state of affairs is not as it was in past years. The Ambassador here said the same thing, meaning the minority of his Master; but the forces of this Kingdom and of the other Confederates will be more than sufficient to counterbalance any attack by the House of Austria. Groti, the Archduke's Secretary, who came with the

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Spanish Ambassador, said that the second Imperial ban had been issued and that Spinola had been charged with its execution. If that be so it means nothing else than war. The French Ambassador is waiting hourly the arrival of news as to Rohan's reply to the royal orders touching the disturbances in Rochelle and S. Jean d'Angely.

The day before yesterday the Corporation of London had a conference about planting of a certain portion of North Ireland at present inhabited by savage men. Two pirate ships have been taken. The Ambassador who is returning from Constantinople (Glover) writes from Patras, giving an account to the Turkey merchants of what he had done on their behalf.

London, 20th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 21. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

669. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The English match has not been discussed much lately save for the remark made by the captain of Castle Delfino that the Prince would marry none but the second Princess of France. The Nuncio endeavours to persuade his Highness against the match.

Turin, 21st October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 25. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

670. Cristoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

The Grand Vizir has given express orders that all letters going out by sea are to be stopped and opened. He wishes to find out what reports all the Ambassadors are making. Purely business letters will be forwarded. The Ambassador has informed the Ambassadors of France and England, and will take concerted action along with them.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 25th October, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Oct. 26. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

671. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Gabaleone went to the Earl of Northampton to receive the final answer committed by the King to the Earl, the Earl of Worcester and to the Chamberlain, who seeing that the answer implied the whole matter, begged the King to associate with them the Chancellor, the Duke of Lennox and other members of the Council. The King replied that as he would have to be in London himself this week to meet the Elector Palatine, the question might stand over till he arrived. Gabaleone was informed of this; he had already taken leave and was only waiting the answer to the point about the dower, as the other two are so to say settled. The

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ambassadors, two in number, who are to come from the Duke will give the ultimate touches, confirming all that has been promised by Gabaleone and stipulating the contract. Lotti has caused General Cecil to make larger offers, hinting that the two hundred thousand crowns which were to have been paid within a year would be paid at once, but the King stayed their mouths by declaring that he would abide by what he had promised, that is to send an Envoy expressly to Florence to learn the Duke's will and to declare his own.

The Elector of Brandenburg's Ambassador is here. Yesterday, late, news came express that the Palatine had embarked at Flushing. He is hourly expected at Dover. The Spanish Ambassador has left at last, four days ago. He has effected nothing but to create and to receive a very bad impression. It is quite certain that he will do all the ill offices he can in Spain. Neither the King nor the nobles mind that, and the people welcome it as they desire war. The Spanish Lieger confirms what Groti said about the second Imperial ban. I have recently had a long talk with a member of the Council, and I cannot do better than report his very words. The Spanish Ambassador had a threefold mission; one, that should he find the marriage of the Princess and the Palatine not concluded, he was to say that it was the custom of Spain not to mention marriage till a year after the death of the Queen, but that at the expiry of that period the King would certainly send an envoy to ask for the Princess' hand. Second, if he found that the Virginia Colony was not going ahead well, he was to beg that it might be abandoned entirely; third, to watch closely the negotiations of Savoy and to report. As he did find the marriage concluded and the colony advancing vigorously he reported home and waited fresh orders. As to Savoy, having understood that only the question of the dower remained in doubt, he is going to leave to-morrow. It is concluded that Spain really has a hand in this marriage business.

The Earl of Northampton, who is Lord Treasurer *in petto*, does almost all the business in the King's absence. I seeing his growing power went to call on him to assure him of your Excellencies' good will towards the King. He protested that he was ever ready to serve the Republic. He declared that I was in such high favour with the King that he did not know what he could do for me. He then told me that at Padua was his nephew, the Earl of Arundel,* who, very likely, will stay there the winter to take the waters, and every favour your Excellencies may show him will be an obligation upon Northampton himself and will be pleasing to the King. He told me that as regards the marriages the paper was still white, nor had the King given his word to any one as yet. As to the Earl of Arundel I will not say anything to your Excellencies save that he is the premier earl of this kingdom, in which there are no Dukes save the King's sons, the Duke of Lennox being a Scot; nor Marquises save Winchester, who does not come to Court. Arundel will be, through his wife, a daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury,

* *See* Birch, *Court and Times of James I.*, i. 210. Carleton to Chamberlain. Venice, Nov. 20th. "My Lord of Arundel is set forward toward England, through France, well amended for his health by the means of his physic at Padua."

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heir to sixty thousand crowns a year; he is nephew of Northampton, who has no children and is very powerful in the government. Your Excellencies' prudence will know how to oblige him greatly at a small cost, and every favour shown to Arundel will be well employed.

The English Ambassador resident in Venice has caused me to be entertained by his relations in a very worthy way.* I will return the compliment in a suitable fashion, and it often falls to act thus to him who is not at all in favour.

London, 26th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 26. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

672. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

After a successful advance into Sweden without meeting any obstacles, near the capital, Stockholm, the King of Denmark found the King of Sweden encamped in a strong position near a river. Finding it impossible to bring on an engagement, and pressed by lack of food, harassed by skirmishes and alarmed at the damage the Swedish fleet was doing in Denmark, the King retired to Copenhagen, intending to strengthen his fleet. There are three Ambassadors with each of these Kings, sent by the Dutch and the Princes of the Union, besides the agent of the King of England. Negotiations for peace are on foot and arms are almost entirely suspended. In this campaign Denmark conquered almost all Gothland, but it returned to its obedience on the approach of the King of Sweden. The King of England declares that he will not encourage the war by sending succours, but will do all he can for peace. The conditions are that Sweden should cede Calmar, Golberi and some other places. All this is highly important for the affairs of Germany.

This country is paying six hundred thousand crowns for the Princess' dower and the arrival of the Palatine. The writs are out and the money will soon be in the King's hands. I have just heard of the arrival of the Elector Palatine at Dover. The Duke of Lennox and other nobles have left in haste to receive him.

The Prince will stay two days at Gravesend. The King will be here to-morrow or the next morning. He will at once grant audience to the Ambassador of Brandenburg, who is here with a large suite. He will also give the reply to Gabaleone. The Elector will be received in great state; and I will duly report all to your Excellencies. The arrival of the Palatine with so large a following, the fêtes which are being prepared, the expenditure in dresses and liveries, have attracted an extraordinary number of people to London and caused a great rise in the price of everything—food, dress, and keep of horses. In this crowd and general rejoicing, when the Court, the Ambassadors and all persons of quality are preparing to appear, I must do the same in order to maintain your Excellencies' dignity; I must put my household in new liveries, and I must get more horses, as I lost three when with his Majesty on

* *See* Birch. *op. cit.* i. 187. Sir Walter Cope had invited Foscarini to his house in Kensington and to kill a buck in Hyde Park.

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Progress, besides some clothes for myself. Moreover there are the expenses for banquets and other entertainments incidental to such rejoicings. All this is very troublesome and causes me anxiety on account of my private fortune, which has been diminished by such expenses during the course of the eight years I have been on your service; nor can I nor ought I to speak of this to others, nor look for any help save from your Serenity and your Excellencies, my Sovreign and my Masters.

London, 26th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 26. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

673. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Extraordinary of Spain in taking leave of the King asked for pardon for twelve priests who are lying in prison. He received a polite reply. The King saw the list and excluded five, all Jesuits, mostly convicted of felony and some in the Tower. The first was Baldwin, the companion of Garnet, head of the Powder Plot, who was sent here two years ago by the late Elector Palatine, a deed which greatly pleased his Majesty. The Ambassador used strong language at this refusal and declared that he did not care for the release of the others, who were common folk, for whom he had not sought this grace. He did all he could to obtain some of the five, but every effort proved vain, and so he left in the worst of humours. The Archbishop of Canterbury told me this; he is the first of the Councillors and is the personage whom I do not name in the enclosed. He told me that the Ambassador's fourth commission was *a sinister one* and that on his arrival numerous *seditious Jesuits* resorted to him, and he *negotiated secretly with* them on express *orders of his Master. His departure* was greatly to be desired. At this point came the King's order for the release of seven of the priests. The Archbishop signed it. It seems that the Ambassador had left an hour before, without waiting the upshot.

I gather about the Savoy match that if it is found that Spain has a hand in it, it will vanish.

London, 26th October, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Oct. 27. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

674. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

As the Anglo-Savoyard match advances their Highnesses raise their offers of dower; it will reach a million of gold.

Florence, 27th October, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Nov. 2.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

675. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Secretary Ciorli is to go to the Court. He has just returned from England, and will report on the state of the negotiations for the match. Their Highnesses, learning that the Duke of Savoy is pushing ahead, have resolved to negotiate through the English Ambassador in Venice, to whom they have sent an agent.

Florence, 2nd November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 4.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

676. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The negotiations for the English match hang fire a little; the chief difficulty being the question of the assignment of the dower; his Highness wishes to place it in Piedmont or Savoy, the King desires England or Holland. Gabaleone is coming here on this business.

Here the rumour of a rupture between England and Spain over Virginia grows daily.

Turin, 4th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 9.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

677. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I herewith enclose two letters, one from the second son of the Duke of Modena, the other from the Duke, his father. I have replied in the terms of the copy, also enclosed. These letters and the answers refer to the suggestion of a pension for the Prince and the permission to raise troops in the territory of Modena. The Ambassador believes six thousand crowns a year would satisfy the Prince; that is the half of what the Republic gave to Vaudemont. He strongly urges an understanding with Modena and Mantua.

London, 9th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 9.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

678. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the second of this month I received the despatches of the fifth of October. I sought audience, and was received with those honours which the King is wont to show to your servant; he kept me in conversation for nearly two hours. I began by congratulating him on the safe arrival of the Palatine, who came with a great suite and much pomp, as I shall report later on. The Palatine has surpassed expectation, which, on the King's part, was not great. The Elector professed eternal attachment and submission, and the King declared that he received him as a son. He was pleased that your Serenity had announced your succession to the Palatine. I then went on to thank his Majesty for the honours

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shown me. I then touched on the Uscocks. His Majesty listened as to something he knew already. He renewed his offers, and talked slightingly of the House of Austria, which, he said, had hardly any other forces than those of Spain; Gratz and Innsbruck were poor, so also those of Germany, the Archduke (meaning Flanders) was in a way a mere governor, and had no states of his own, the Emperor was a pauper. He said that the Republic on the other hand was strong in money and men and had God on its side. He then went on to talk of Brandenburg and the issue of the second Imperial ban. He wished that Neuburg would show the same spirit as Brandenburg. He has endeavoured to have the question referred to himself; but Saxony is featherbrained and puffed up, full of false views; a man who at the Imperial Election deserted the lay electors to stand for Albert and Spain; while his brother lived he did nothing but hunt; now he does nothing but drink; he is sure to die soon. All this the King expressed with considerable movement of his person and still more of his spirit. Saxony is devoted to Spain and so they will be forced to return to the state of two years ago, which he appeared to be unwilling to do, that is to a union of France, the United Provinces and the Confederates of Hall. When I asked if France was so far forward he replied that it could not be better, for recently the Queen had openly announced that if Saxony would not listen to reason she would stand in with England, the Provinces and the Confederates on behalf of the two "possessioners"; the Queen herself has sent a copy of this statement to his Majesty. He said France was doing all she could to show she had nothing in common with Spain; then seeing that I was paying close attention he added "If you wish me to tell you what I really think about France it is this, I believe that all the better sort are very adverse to Spain. The Queen and Villeroy you know by experience." As to Savoy some of the Duke's party have been arrested in Geneva and put to death. I asked if the Duke were not bound to abstain; the King replied "yes," but that the Duke would plead that the obligation is not binding until the match has been concluded. If the Duke desired to break away from Spain he might do so without alarm, as on the one side there would be the English, on the other the Venetians, the States, the Swiss and the Confederates, besides more than one Italian Prince, so he would have more support than he could get from Spain. He asked if your Excellencies' frontier was near the Duke's; I said about forty or fifty miles away.

London, 9th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 9. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

679. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Talking of the Duke of Saxony the King said he was won over when in Rome by Pope Clement VIII, a Pontiff whom he praised. He also made some remarks unfavourable to the zeal of the French Ambassador in Constantinople for the establishment of the Jesuits, whom he called seditious and a rock of offence.

London, 9th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Nov. 9.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

680. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

At Dover were two ships belonging to the Elector Palatine, and a personage of importance who was on board, took post to go to the King. A few hours later, the wind having freshened, his Highness entered the Thames with three ships of war belonging to the Dutch, and some smaller vessels, in all, eleven. He landed at Gravesend, where the Duke of Lennox and a large company of gentlemen in the royal barges and others had gone to meet him, and so all the preparations made in various places nearer to the sea were rendered useless. His Highness rested two days and on Sunday week set out for London. He was accompanied by about one hundred and fifty boats of various kinds, and the nearer he came to London the denser grew the throng. He passed straight to Whitehall (*Vintal*), a royal palace, and was saluted on his way by upwards of two hundred guns from the Tower of London, as well as by an infinity of salutes from the shipping, with which the river was full. The reverberating blare of trumpets, drums and other warlike music was immense; the echo of the cannon, the smoke, and the cheers with which he was saluted made a vast confusion. He found his Majesty in the Great Hall where they hold their barriers, their dances and so on. The Queen was with him on a daïs raised up ten steps, which is unusual, and under a baldachino of gold brocade. The Prince, Princess and Duke of York stood by. The guard were all in rich dresses of velvet and gold; the Hall was thronged with Lords and Ladies in the richest robes and laden with jewels; a display that this kingdom could not excel, nor was its like seen even at the coming of the King of Denmark. The Palatine was preceded by a number of gentlemen who had gone to meet him; then came his gentlemen all in gala dress; then came thirty-six Barons and gentlemen who hold fiefs, who were in his train; finally eight counts, among them three of the House of Nassau, and one brother of Prince Maurice, Prince Henry, who has in his own private suite above sixty persons, between gentlemen and servants. The Duke of Lennox walked with Prince Henry and all preceded the Palatine. When he had made his reverences at the due distances he mounted the steps and was embraced by the King, whereupon he made a profound reverence with great humility and grace and offered himself in the very terms I have reported. The King was extremely pleased, all the more so as he had been in some doubt, and tenderly embracing him he said he took him for his son, as such he desired and as such he would treat him. The Palatine then paid his respects to the Queen, who looked favourably on him, and then after two bows he approached the Princess and boldly kissed her; the King look on approvingly at the spirit and grace with which this was done, and at the blush which suffused the Princess' face and enhanced her beauty. Then after fulfilling his devoirs to the Princes and having stayed as long as he thought suitable, he withdrew to the lodging prepared for him, leaving a most excellent impression behind him in all the Court, on their Majesties and above all on the Princess.

That evening I sent my Secretary to present my compliments. He found the house so handsomely furnished, the crowd so great,

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and the pomp so magnificent that he was amazed. He discharged his mission satisfactorily and the Palatine replied in suitable terms. The day following he again visited the King and Queen, and saw the Princess separately in her apartments. He kissed her for the second time, and made advances in the general favour. He is very handsome, of pleasant speech, with a French accent, as he was brought up at Sedan along with his uncle de Bouillon. He changes his dress every day, and one is richer than another. All the gentlemen he has with him are covered with gold, chains and jewels. He has fifty pages and grooms in crimson velvet liveries embroidered with gold, silver-brocade doublets, and each gentleman of his suite has his own livery. The English gentlemen vie with these, and so the whole city is full of animation. Three days ago he entered on his appartment in the Palace to the universal satisfaction. He is frequently with the Princess, with whom he is now very familiar. He speaks French to her and to every one else, and knows the language excellently well, as does the King and the rest of the royal family sufficiently. Since his arrival hardly any other language has been used at Court, as it is the language of all his suite. The Princess, who maybe begins to feel the warmth of the approaching nuptials, adorns her great natural beauty by dress and embellishments. She is preparing a sumptuous ballet of sixteen maidens, of whom she will be one; it is to cost twelve thousand crowns. They are also preparing barriers, tourneys, and jousts. These will go on till Easter, when the marriage is to take place, and the Elector will set out with the Princess. The six hundred thousand crowns destined for these fêtes have grown to a million, and those who know say that even this will not suffice.

The Dutch Envoy, who has just received a large donation from his Masters, has made new liveries and new suits, and frequents the audiences at Court. The Flemish Ambassador also is awaiting assistance towards his expenses, which has been promised him. France and Spain, too, have received assistance. I am constrained to lament that my private fortune is not such as to permit me to compete with them, as they have their Masters' purses behind them. I will, however, do my best, and my remarks are merely to express my duty, so that either a resolution may be passed to assist me, or that I may be pardoned for the nature of the efforts I shall be forced to make.

London, 9th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 10.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

681. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

A ship has arrived in Leghorn from London with lead, spices and quantities of cloth.

Florence, 10th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Nov. 14.
Collegio, Secreta, Esposizioni Roma. Venetian Archives.

682. The Spanish Ambassador having demanded the release of Georgio Cardosa, received a reply by resolution of the Senate. He came to the Cabinet again to complain and to press his demand. He cited the precedent of Castelvetro, released from the Inquisition at the request of the English Ambassador within six hours, whereas he had now asked in vain three times for a similar favour in the case of Cardosa, his servant, innocent, and any way accused of a slighter offence than Castelvetro, who was a relapsed heretic, condemned by the Inquisition. The Ambassador lamented that the popular voice charges him with designs to murder Senators and with keeping powder in his house to blow up buildings.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 15.
Minutes of the Senate, Roma. Venetian Archives.

683. To the Ambassador in Rome.

The Council of Ten some days ago ordered the arrest of Georgio Cardosa; the Spanish Ambassador complained on the ground that Cardosa was a Spanish subject in service of the Embassy, and claimed his release. We pointed out that Cardosa had come to Venice seventeen years ago from Fez with jewels, and had settled in the city and married; therefore it cannot be urged that his arrest is an offence to his Majesty or to his Ambassador. The Ambassador was not satisfied; he continued to talk in an excited manner. He quoted the case of Castelvetro. We pointed out the difference between the cases. We send you this for your information should the case be mentioned at the Court where you reside.

Similar to Germany, France, England, Savoy, Milan, Florence, Naples.

Ayes 6.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 51.

To this the following amendment was moved: The Ambassador will receive a copy of the report of the Ten on the case, and will make use thereof if prejudicial rumours are spread abroad; and will dwell on the conduct of the Spanish Ambassador here in giving shelter to *brari* and bandits.

Ayes 105.

Nov. 16.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

684. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Spinola on his return from Germany has been to Marimont, where he reported to his Highness on his negotiations with the Emperor about the election of the King of the Romans, the dismantling of Mühlheim, the claims of Saxony, and arming against the Turk. As to the election the Emperor is well disposed, and it may take place in the diet to be held in May. As to Mühlheim he has obtained what he wanted after some difficulty, and on the absolute promise that obedience to the Imperial ban would be

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exacted by the arms of Spain and Flanders. Saxony is resolved to support his claims on Cleves. As to the muster of troops there is great opposition among the larger number of German Princes and alarm among the Protestants lest the forces of Spain and the Empire may be turned against them. The moment the two "possessioners" received the second Imperial ban ordering the immediate suspension of the works on Mühlheim and the dismantling of the fortress within a month, they sent off fresh agents to lay their case before the Emperor; as Mühlheim is already in a state to defend itself, they have suspended further works, which were of little moment. They show small disposition to dismantle the place, and if they don't, both Brandenburg and Neuburg will be placed under Imperial ban. Both those Princes are resolved not to admit Saxony to the possession of Cleves. Both points threaten to lead to war, as both sides are heated and both have strong support. On Sunday, the 10th, the Ambassador of Brandenburg had a long interview with the King, who assured him that he would support the two Princes if Saxony would not come to an amicable arrangement. The Ambassador wants the King to threaten immediate war, as mild terms only make the Duke more haughty. He urges that to escape the rain they are jumping into the water.

News from the Hague of the 5th, that money to pay the French regiments has arrived. The Spanish have again raised the question of peace; they offer to renew the declarations as to "sovereignty" and religion in the amplest form and even to go further. The States will not hear of peace; they desire to enjoy the truce until such time as the King of France shall be of age and this Prince, who is martial in spirit, shall have grown up. The Dutch keep all their forces, little less than thirty thousand foot and three thousand horse, ready. Within a month the vessels destined for the Indies will start.

While the Elector was passing down the Rhine, near to a Spanish fortress, on the pretext of saluting him several guns were fired, one of which was shotted and killed two of his suite close by him. Although they sent to apologise, laying the blame on the gunner's carelessness, still some natural resentment survives. I visited the Palatine the day I sent my last despatch. He came to meet me, gave me the right hand and at several doors compelled me to take the *pas*. On my leaving he came down several steps. Prince Henry, brother of Prince Maurice, has done all he could to wait on me first, but I would not depart from ordinary practice, and yesterday morning as I was going to visit him I met him coming to visit me. There is also in the Palatine's suite, Prince John of Nassau, who is married to the daughter of the Duke of Wirtemberg. All the ambassadors have visited the Elector. His Majesty received the Dutch Ambassador in the morning and the Flemish Ambassador in the afternoon of the same day. This has given rise to discussion. In order to end the great expenses to which they are now put, it is thought that the nuptials will take place at Epiphany. Over and above the preparations for barriers, tourneys and ballets the four Colleges* in which are five hundred of the wealthiest gentlemen of

* The Inns of Court.

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this Kingdom, are, in obedience to the Prince's orders and at great expense, preparing jousts, banquets, liveries and other sumptuous entertainments.

London, 16th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

685. Letter from the SULTAN to the DUTCH.

Refers to the Embassy of Cornelius Haga and the letters he brought, begging for the grant of capitulations such as have been granted to other Sovereigns. These capitulations have been conceded to the Dutch. Dutch slaves are to be set free. The custom of the City is that the port is open to all comers, but especially to those who come in friendship. The Dutch to be admitted on the same footing as England and France.

June 1st, 1612.

Nov. 16. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

686. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On the King's arrival in London four Commissioners were added to the three appointed to prepare the answer to Savoy; then three more were named. On Tuesday, the 5th of this month, all ten met to come to some resolution; but the Prince sent to implore the King to defer the matter to another day, as he was not feeling very well. His Majesty agreed. The Prince then went to bed. The French have done all they can to upset this marriage, fearing, and perhaps with reason, that it might possibly serve to bring, eventually, the Crowns of England and Spain together, which would be equivalent to surrounding France entirely. The warlike ideas of the Duke and of the Prince of Wales have led the French to propose the second sister of the King of France with a dower of five hundred thousand crowns to be paid half at once and the rest when the Princess is ten years old, at which age she will come over to England to be brought up at Court; not a word was said about religion or the Catholic rite. These steps have given the members of the Council a great deal to think of and have aroused discussion wherever they were known. As the Queen of France is known to be zealous for her faith, it is thought that these proposals are merely intended to secure for two years the friendship of England at the cost of two hundred and fifty thousand crowns. The Agents of Savoy are pressing for an answer. On Sunday, the 11th, Gabaleone had a very favourable interview with the King.

For the last four days it seems that the Prince's sickness has been growing worse and is becoming dangerous. They have bled him twice in the arm and once in the shoulder; the day before yesterday they cut his hair. As I write I learn from a person I sent to enquire, that after midday he has grown much worse. If he recovers he will be married in a few months, not in France or Spain, but in Germany or Savoy, and to a grown woman, so that he may soon become both husband and father and secure the succession to this Crown.

London, 16th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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Nov. 16.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

687. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

During last night the Prince grew mortally ill; and this morning for an hour and a half he lay as one dead, so that all the city thought him gone. On his coming to they gave him a medicine which made him weaker by throwing him into a sweat, though it cleared up his spirits and his intelligence. None the less the doctors think his case is desperate. The Queen has left his chamber and the King is gone to Theobalds. It is thought they cannot bear the spectacle of the Prince their son dead before their eyes; while the King thinks the solitude of the country more fitting for grief and tears than the bustle of London and the Court. Pray God help the Prince, this kingdom, and all who wish it well.

London, 16th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 17.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches rom Savoy. Venetian Archives.

688. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Spain is doing all she can to prevent the English match, all the more so as matters between England and Spain are very strained.

Turin, 17th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 17.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

689. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

At Leghorn two ships have arrived, one an Englishman from Muscovy with a cargo, for the most part, of hides.

Florence, 17th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 17.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

690. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Prince died two hours after midnight. He has fallen when at the very flower of his high hopes. News was at once sent to the King and Queen by the Lords of Council, who are by the corpse, bewailing the common loss. The succession to this Crown now rests on one single child of ten years, the Duke of York, though it is true that the law does not exclude the Princess. This death will certainly cause great changes in the course of the world. The foes of this kingdom are freed from a grave apprehension, the friends are deprived of a high hope. His Highness had remarkable decision of character and had acquired weight; he was nearer to taking action than many thought. It has fallen to my lot to be present at the death of Henry of France and now of this other Henry, Prince of Great Britain, his peer in greatness, magnanimity, valour, and devotion to your Excellencies; the only difference was their age; nor can I do aught else than follow his bier with useless tears, with temporal mourning in my dress and sempiternal dolour in my breast.

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I send your Excellencies this bitter news with all the speed it merits. In such grief as this will bring you I can think of no other words of comfort save that the King still lives.

London, 17th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

691. The Report of the Autopsy on the Prince.*

Signed by the Grand Master Henry, chief Physician to the King, John Hammond (*Admond*), Richard Palmer, John Gifford, William (*Balliam*) Butler (*Buller*).

Nov. 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

692. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King received the news of the Prince's death at Theobalds; it affected him greatly and made of the happiest the saddest father in the world. He, however, displays his wonted courage and has begun to attend to affairs. The Queen's life has been in the greatest danger owing to her grief. She will receive no visits nor allow anyone in her room, from which she does not stir, nor does she cease crying. The Princess has gone two days without food and cries incessantly. The Elector Palatine does not know what to do; he is quite upset at finding himself here at such an unpropitious and lamentable juncture. The Duke of York, now known as Prince Charles, shows a grief beyond his years. And so the nuptial festivities of this house are turned to mournful trappings.

The Prince's sickness was a continuous fever, with violent and malignant crises of double tertian; rushes of moisture and blood to the head. It is the same sickness that twenty years ago swept the army at Rouen. His Highness only yielded to the sickness of necessity and took to his bed quite unexpectedly. Among the doctors, who attended in great number, it seems no one diagnosed the disease correctly save a Frenchman† in the King's favour. They administered antidotes, bled the Prince on the arm and the shoulder, but later and less copiously than the case required, and hence his death. They shaved his hair and applied violent remedies to relieve him of an excessive pain in the head accompanied by delirium. He bled twice from the nose, nor was this effort of nature to find relief of any efficacy in teaching the doctors, who held it for a sympton of moisture, not blood in the head. His Highness took all his medicines and obeyed the orders of his medical attendants, and through the whole course of his sickness and death he showed himself ever intrepid. He caused many papers and notes given him by others to be burned.‡ Two days before he took to his bed he wished to hear a preacher,§ who took for his

* The Report is printed in Birch. "Life of Henry Prince of Wales," p. 359. The signatures there given are T. Mayerne, Henry Atkyns, John Hammond, Richard Palmer, John Gifford, William Butler.

† Dr. Theodore Mayerne. Dr. Butler is stated to have "mistaken the beginning of his Highness' illness." He himself said "he could not tell what to make of the distemper." *See* Birch, *op. cit.*, p. 341.

‡ Birch, *op. cit.*, p. 355. He told Sir David Murray to burn "a number of letters in a certain cabinet in his closet; which presently after his death was done."

§ Mr. Wilkinson, who preached from Job xiv. 1.

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text "Man that is born of woman is of short continuance and full of trouble," and preached a sermon precisely as though he had known what was going to happen.

The day that Council was to come to a decision about the reply to Savoy the Prince had prepared many reasons for rejecting it, but at that very moment his sickness took hold on him, and he was forced to retire to his chamber, from which he never issued again. He had intended to go to Germany on the plea of accompanying his sister, so as to see that country, but higher aims moved him which he kept to himself and a very few of his confidants. He was athirst for glory if ever any prince was. He lent fire to the King in the affairs of Germany, and aspired to be head of the confederate princes who include fourteen of the Hanseatic towns. Many predictions centred round his person, and he seemed marked out for great events. His whole talk was of arms and war. His authority was great, and he was obeyed and lauded by the military party. He protected the colony of Virginia, and under his auspices the ships sailed for the north-west passage to the Indies. He had begun to put the navy in order and raised the number of sailors. He was hostile to Spain and had claims in France. He would not suffer the Pope to be ill spoken of, and in his familiar conversation he declared that he admired him as a prince. His designs were vast; his temper was grave, severe, reserved, brief in speech. His household was but little inferior to the King's and kept in excellent order. He had few equals in the handling of arms, be it on horse or on foot; in fine all the hopes of these kingdoms were built on his high qualities. Before his death he said little; his last words were when he begged the Archbishop of Canterbury and others who were praying in his chamber to speak louder. He lay with his hands folded, and being asked as he lay there all but motionless if he would give a sign that he commended himself to God, he moved and slightly raised both hands. Towards the end when the doctors told him to commend himself to the Divine Majesty, the true physician who treats by remedies immortal, he replied that they need not doubt of this, but that they ought to make still an effort to save him. Two days before he died a gentleman of his chamber was sharply rebuked for having told the Prince to think on God and on death; the Prince rebuked the rebukers, declaring that such discourse could not be displeasing to any. The funeral will be at the beginning of next month. Orders have been given already; yesterday all the Court was in mourning, and between to-day and to-morrow all the Ambassadors will also be. The King has distributed fifty thousand crowns among the Prince's household. Yesterday the Chamberlain presented the list of Gentlemen of the Chamber, who, as he told me, number three hundred and fifteen. All are here at present, having been summoned for the coming of the Palatine. The gentlemen of the household number one hundred and two. All will follow the bier on foot, besides an infinite number of Nobles, Earls, Barons, Councillors.

London, 23rd November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Nov. 23.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

693. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Yesterday week I went to visit Prince Charles, Duke of York. He asked me who is the King of Spain's Commander-in-Chief in Italy, what I thought of the fleet which his Catholic Majesty was preparing, and for what purpose I imagined that it was intended. I replied that, as far as I knew, there was no Spanish Commander-in-Chief in Italy at present, and that rumour said that the fleet was destined for the Indies. He said very quietly that perhaps the destination lay nearer home, and that he knew there was an idea of creating the Prince of Piedmont Generalissimo. He then spoke to me of Venice, its site, and of the desire he had to visit it some day. He enquired how your Serenity was and how your Excellencies stood with the Pope and with Spain. I replied that his Highness could not go to any place where he would be better received for the love that is borne to his person and his Royal House; that it was well between your Excellencies and the Pope and Spain; and that you were sure of his support on all occasions. This I said knowing that it would please the Duke.

The Ambassador of Brandenburg took leave of the King two days before the Prince died. Two days after that he visited me to take his leave, and he departed the day before yesterday. He told me in all confidence that he was taking to his Master most explicit promises from the King that he would assist Brandenburg with arms if Saxony did not change his attitude; his Majesty has sent strongly-worded letters on the subject.

Three days ago the Palatine sent one of his suite to say that presently some of his Council would wait on me to make up in a certain measure for the tardiness of his own visit, the result of the Prince's death. They came and assured me that as soon as the universal sorrow and confusion were abated he would call on me. The Palatine has been with the King for a short time a few miles out of London, and to-morrow his Majesty will be here.

There is a doubt in many minds whether it is expedient to allow the Princess to leave England, now that there is only the Duke of York remaining. All that can be affirmed is that the King loves the Elector, and is resolved that the marriage shall go forward.

London, 23rd November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 24.
Collegio, Lettere, Venetian Archives.

694. To the Rectors of Padua.

The Ambassador Foscarini, resident in England, writes to us that there has arrived in Padua to take the baths the Earl of Arundel, a gentleman of great rank, nephew of the Earl of Northampton, one of the King's chief ministers. Foscarini says that any favour shown to him will be appreciated. You are to

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send some officer of your household to wait on him and to offer our services whenever he may require them.

Ayes 18.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 0.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 25. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Padua. Venetian Archives.

695. The Rectors of Padua to the Doge and Senate.

Received orders about the Earl of Arundel. We found that he was lodging in a house he took near il Santo, and which he keeps for his purge; but he is at present in Venice. We have not been able to find out where he is lodged in that city. We shall await his return to carry out our orders.

Padua, 25th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 27. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

696. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

News of the death of the Prince of Wales received. It has been received in various ways. The Huguenots are grieved, as they built their hopes on the Prince, and had already chosen him as their chief support and head; others reckon this death among the good fortunes of France.

Paris, 27th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 27. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

697. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Pedro di Zuñiga has passed through here incognito, on his way from England to Spain.

Paris, 27th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

698. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King has resolved to summon Parliament for January, to postpone the wedding till May, and has fixed the seventh of next month, that is the seventeenth, new style, for the funeral of the Prince. Parliament will be occupied with many important points which are maturing in the King's mind and that of his adviser.

The nuptials will be celebrated in great state and at a great cost. They are delayed for that very purpose and to give the Ambassadors time to change their festal robes into mourning for the Prince. The Council has discussed the question whether in view of the Prince's death, the marriage of the Princess should take place. They decided in the affirmative, and the King told the Palatine that when she is his wife he can take her where he likes. This has consoled him greatly in the midst of hostile rumours. The King has decided

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that Prince Charles shall leave St. James' Palace and settle in the Royal Palace; that for some time he is not to have a household, nor is there any talk of making him Prince of Wales; the Prince has, accordingly, moved into the Palace at Westminster, to an apartment near to the King's. He is seldom to be seen, and continues his studies; he is very popular and amiable with everybody, he is alive to his increased importance; his health is excellent and he is twelve years of age, but so slight and so gentle that, in truth, he hardly shows them; those who wish well to this Crown would fain see him stronger. The servants of the late Prince have petitioned the King to be admitted, each one to his post, when Prince Charles sets up a household, and in the meantime they beg for some support. The King has taken some into his own service, pensioned others and consoled the rest with fair speeches and promises.

The ships destined for Virginia will set out. I hear of the safe arrival eight miles from London of a very rich ship from those parts. It is too soon to note the effect of the Prince's death on other Sovreigns. Late yesterday a courier arrived from France at the French Embassy. The Spanish are now much more haughty. Those who feared the Prince call his natural death a miracle. The Spanish Ambassador says that the affairs of Germany will now change their aspect. Owing to the Prince's death the Ambassador of Brandenburg has carried off nothing "between his two dishes," so the Spanish Ambassador says. Talking of the possible marriage of Prince Charles to the second Infanta he said that the children of his Sovreign cannot marry heretics; and that he, though a simple gentleman, would never give either sister or daughter to a heretic Prince. On the other hand these gentlemen have shown a high spirit and they say there is no need for the King to think of a Spanish woman. The Ambassador, too, who had audience of the Council on the subject of some Spanish ships plundered by the English, hoped for a favourable reply, but instead got mere words. Letters from Holland bring news that the King of Morocco has defeated his foe and is now sole King. If true, this is a considerable blow to Spain. It has been discovered that the late Prince had secret correspondence in France with Princes of the blood and others, unknown to the King, his father; and that the papers he caused to be burned before his death contained this correspondence and other matters, and therefore the details and the persons will, for the most part, remain hidden. (*Si è scoperto che il principe defunto haveva secreta corrispondenza in Franza con quelli del Sangue et altri, senza saputa del Rè suo Padre, et le scritture che fece abbrugiar inanti la sua morte contenevano questa et altre trattationi; onde li particolari et le persone resterano in gran parte occulti.*)

His Highness was so secret that he kept everything entirely to himself. He listened to all, but conferred with none. With a high conception of himself he reached all his decisions alone. He desired all his correspondence to be burned to save from danger those whom death prevented him from rewarding. He had prepared presents and proposals to be made to Prince Maurice when accompanying his sister through Holland to Germany. It is certain that he was in correspondence with Prince Maurice, whom

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he esteemed above all others. The sudden change in his mind about the Savoy match, which he originally desired, is supposed to have been due to the advice of Count Henry, who is here, acting under the influence of his brother.

Beyond all doubt the ideas which he received and embraced were vast. Finding himself master of many places in the Principality of Wales and the Duchy of Cornwall, eight days before his death he gave orders for the sale of some which would have brought him in more than four hundred thousand crowns; this he intended to employ upon his journey, wherein he designed to be accompanied by an almost infinite number of young nobles. (*Era sua Altezza talmente secreta che teneva tutto in se medesimo, ascoltava ogn' uno, non conferira a persona, pretendendo molto da se stesso, risolreva sola. Al suo morire disse voler tutte le sue scritture brucciate, per assicurar dal pericolo quelli che le impediva la morte da premiare; haveva preparato presenti, propositioni et risposte da fare al Conte Mauritio nel passar per Olanda ad accompagnar la Principessa sua sorella in Germania; è certa cosa tenesse trattationi col detto Maurito, da lui stimato sopra ogn' altro, et la mutatione nota nel suo animo quasi in un momento nell' aborrire il matrimonio con Savoia, prima desiderato, credesi sia stato consiglio del conte Arrigo, che si trova qui, impresso dal fratello; et grandissimi eran senza dubio i concetti soministrati et abbracciati da sua Altezza, che trovando di esser padrone di despor di molti luoghi nel Prencipato di Vuaglia et Ducato di Cornubia, otto giorni inanti la sua morte haveva ordinato se ne dovesse far vendita che harrebbe importato più de* $\frac{m}{400}$ *scudi de quali dissegnava valersi nel camino et suponeva haver seguito di un numero quasi infinito di nobiltà giovane.*)

No Ambassador has as yet had audience of their Majesties. I have sent to pay my respects to the King, who said he was sure of the affection of the Republic. The first Ambassadors he will see will be those of France and of your Serenity. I have also sent to present my duty to the Queen, the Prince and Princess, by my Secretary, who has discharged the task satisfactorily as usual. I shall put myself, my carriage and my suite into mourning.

London, 30th November, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 1.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

699. Domenico Domenici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Two Couriers have arrived from England recently. They were sent by Lotti and bring information on the Savoyard negotiations, in which the Duke is employing Wotton and making large offers of dower. Lotti says that if the Grand Duke will raise his offer there is a chance of the match coming off. The Grand Duke is thinking of sending Don Giovanni de' Medici expressly to England.

Florence, the first of December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

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1612.
Dec. 1.
Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

700. To the Rectors in Padua.

We have heard to-day from our Ambassador Foscarini that the Prince of England is dead after a few days' illness. You are to make a suitable statement of our sorrow to the English Ambassador, who is in Padua. You are to report what you have done.

Ayes 166.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 2.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Padua. Venetian Archives.

701. The Rectors of Padua to the Doge and Senate.

We have enquired whether the English Ambassador is still in Padua; we are informed that his Excellency has left and is in Venice. Madame, his consort, is leaving this morning for Venice.

Padua, 2nd December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 2.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

702. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

On Wednesday, the 28th, an express arrived from England, sent by Sir Henry Wotton and Gabaleone, announcing the death of Prince Henry. The Court and his Highness were greatly concerned. The day following a council was held which lasted many hours. Prince Tommaso is ill of a fever very like that which carried off the Prince of Wales. The Duke let fall some expressions which show that he doubts whether the Prince died a natural death.

Turin, 2nd December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 3.
Collegio, Secreta. Lettere. Venetian Archives.

703. As the Rectors of Padua have been unable to carry out our orders to condole with the English Ambassador, owing to his departure from Padua, motion is now made that the white balls shall mean that these condolences are to be presented here by two *Savii* of the Cabinet, the green balls that they are to be presented by a Secretary, the red balls are neutral.

White 16.
Green 3.
Red 1.

The Doge then nominated Ser Alvise Foscarini and Ser Piero Contarini to carry out the task.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 7.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

704. The Secretary of the English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:

On the orders of the King, who has returned to London, congratulations on the Doge's accession are renewed. The Ambassador returned from Padua on purpose to carry out these orders, but the death of the Prince of Wales, about which he is awaiting fuller

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information from England, prevents him from fulfilling this duty in person. He has, therefore, sent me to present his excuses, and to offer congratulations and to hand you his Majesty's letter.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 7. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

705. To the King of Great Britain.

Letter of condolence on the death of Prince Henry.

Ayes 148.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

Dec. 7. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

706. To the Queen of Great Britain.

Letter of condolence on the death of Prince Henry.

Ayes 148.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

Dec. 7. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

707. To the Duke of York.

Letter of condolence on the death of Prince Henry.

Ayes 148.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

This letter was sent in duplicate, one addressed with the title of Duke, the other with the title of Prince.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 7. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

708. To the Ambassador in England.

We have received your despatches of the 17th of last month, informing us of the death of the Prince of Wales. We at once sent to condole with his Majesty's Ambassador here resident, who was at Padua. When our orders reached Padua the Ambassador had already left. We therefore resolved to send two *Savii* of the Cabinet to his residence here to condole; which was done.

We feel sure that by the time you receive this, you will have already offered due condolences, still we charge you to renew them expressly in our name in accordance with the terms of the letters we send you and which you are to present. The letter to the Duke of York is in duplicate; you will present the one with the title you know to be correct.

Ayes 148.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

709. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The death of the Count of Soissons will mean the quiet of France there remains however the Duke of Rohan, some commotion

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in la Rochelle, and St. Jean d'Angely very well fortified. There is intelligence in Germany and with Maurice in Holland, and this has induced the Queen to pay the two French regiments, which she never intended to do, has produced the second and more favourable answer to Brandenburg, and has brought her to discharge one hundred thousand crowns of the debt due to England. There are many malcontents in France; the majority of the Princes cannot endure that the Chancellor and Villeroy should direct everything as they please, nor yet the great weight enjoyed by Concini; they are, however, pacified from time to time by donatives. Villeroy and the Chancellor shelter themselves to some extent behind the President Jeannin. I have all this from a good source. The Queen has made some communication to the Princes in Germany on the subject of her Ambassador in the Grisons and his efforts to detach them from the league with your Serenity. She lays the blame in the first instance on your Excellencies' Ministers in those parts, and says if the Grisons wish to renew the league she will use her good offices. I must inform your Excellencies that while I was in France the Grisons pensioners of France repeatedly told me that Villeroy desired to see all relations between Venice and the Three Leagues cut off, as I reported at the time. The French think that, during the minority, it is dangerous to stir up arms in neighbouring States. They do all they can to quiet the Princes of Germany, and are opposed even to arming against the Turk. The French insinuate that the forces of the Emperor and of Spain would be the most powerful in Germany and might be directed against the Protestants, not against the Turks. Caret (Carey),* Master of Wards, is dead; he was Ambassador in France, and I passed three years of close friendship with him there and kept it up during the twenty months I have been here. His death is a loss to your Excellencies as well; and it seems to me that continual misfortunes are weakening my powers of humbly serving you.

London, 7th December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

710. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Last Saturday Gabaleone took his leave of the King, who explained to him all his most intimate intentions in the late negotiations. His Majesty charged him to assure the Duke that he may count on the support of England just as if the match had taken place. Gabaleone was knighted† and received from the King a diamond worth one thousand five hundred crowns, which he took off his finger, and the right to bear the rose of England and the thistle of Scotland as crest to his arms. He was also given two horses * * * * and in short was dismissed with the most honourable expressions that he could have desired. In the letter to the Duke in which

* *See* Birch, 1. 208. Sir George Carey, Master of the Wards, probably son of George Henry third Lord Hunsdon.

† *See* Birch of *cit.* 1, 208. "The Banquier Gabellione was knighted."

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he laments the death of his son, he praises the dexterity of the Duke's agents. Gabaleone was three days ago with the Queen, who though living as much retired as possible, kept him an hour with her, and gave him a cluster ring of diamonds, worth one thousand five hundred crowns. He has also kissed hands with the Prince and Princess. He will take his departure, possibly with the idea in his head that he may open negotiations for the marriage of the Prince Charles and the Infanta Catherine, or at all events for a closer union. Certain it is that the King is pleased at the marks of esteem shown by the Duke. It is also true that the King intended the match to take place, though the Prince in the last days of his life was much averse, and was entirely given up to grandiose schemes. The King went to Theobalds on Saturday, where he passed two days, unwell. The doctors of his Majesty and of the Palatine were there and exaggerated reports reached London. He mended, and is now quite well. To facilitate the peace between Sweden and Denmark, which is meeting with some difficulties, there is a scheme to marry the King of Sweden's sister, who is very beautiful, to the King of Denmark, and good hopes of success are entertained. The Ambassador of Brandenburg, who was here, is now in Holland on the same mission as he had here and in France. I have letters from the Hague that the Dutch are preparing a regiment of infantry to send to Cleves, on the pretext that they have been hired by the "possessioners." Yesterday the Palatine's first Councillor visited me while his master and Count Henry were at Theobalds with the King. The marriage is fixed for the 7th of May, as I reported; and on the 27th of January, old style, they will draw up the contract. The Secretary of the English Ambassador in Venice has arrived here. He saw the King at Theobalds, but owing to his Majesty's bad health he was ordered back to London, there to wait the King's coming. I only know as yet that in various places he has spoken in most honourable terms of your Serenity and Excellencies. The Dutch Ambassador here told me that the Dutch Envoy (Haga) at Constantinople has secured both his objects, the release of slaves and the formation of a commercial treaty, and will be back in a few months. I asked if another ambassador would be sent, and he replied that he did not know. The day before yesterday a gentleman of the Spanish Ambassador came here by post. He brings some orders about the Savoy match and the King's instructions that the Lieger is to stay on, so Don Diego Sarmiento's arrival is postponed. The Savoy dower was fixed at three hundred thousand crowns down and five hundred thousand within a fixed time; although Gabaleone told me yesterday evening, when visiting me to take his leave, that the sum was seven hundred thousand, to be paid in four years. Jewels were not counted in.

London, 7th December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 7. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

711. Motion made to grant one thousand crowns of seven lire each to Antonio Foscarini in consideration of his expenses in entertaining the son of the Duke of Modena, in following the King

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on Progress, and in making suitable preparation for the funeral of the Prince and the marriage of the Princess.

Ayes	137.	Not carried; second vote.	Ayes	127.
Noes	11.		Noes	8.
Neutrals	17.		Neutrals	30.

Suspended for the first time, as the vote requires a five-sixths majority in a chamber of one hundred and fifty and upwards.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 8. Senato. Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

712. Domenico Domenici, Venetian President in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

News of the Prince's death. The Grand Duke at once sent orders to his Ambassador in Rome to communicate it to the Pope and to express his devotion to the See, and to say that he never intended to do aught that could possibly injure the faith. *The friends of Spain are glad at the death of the Prince. They say the remaining one is weak and may not live long; and so the King of Spain may one day find the way to place his* foot in that *Kingdom and reintroduce the true faith.*

Florence, 8th December, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec. 10. Senato. Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

713. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Secretary eight days ago went with all his suite in deep mourning (*con habiti sino in terra*) to kiss his Highness' hand. But they were told that his Highness's grief was so great that he did not desire to increase it, and so they deferred their audience to another season. I, knowing the good relations between your Serenity and England, desired to foster them, and so, though it is not usual for ambassadors to visit agents, I called on the English Secretary. This gentleman is a person so sagacious and reticent that it is impossible to extract any valuable information from him. I endeavoured to discover the truth about the Prince's death in order to see whether there were any doubts about foul play; but as far as his words went I left in the same state of doubt as that in which I came. On the one hand he called it a malignant fever that slew the Prince, on the other he said the Prince was very free and sincere, that he lived very openly as one who had no suspicions. More than that I could not get.

Turin, 10th December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 11. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

714. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

I reported the negotiations for the marriage of the second Princess and the late Prince of England. After his decease the affair is being pushed forward with the present Prince, with hopes of a more easy settlement. The other day Villeroy, on the excuse

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of condolence, visited the English Ambassador and very openly proposed the match. The Ambassador held out hopes and assured Villeroy that if the French would pursue this matter sincerely and frankly they might quite well look for success. Villeroy then *told him that the negotiations of Florence were purely a ruse of the Spanish to upset the French match and this was the real object of Don Pedro de Zuñiga's mission. An English match would rouse Spanish suspicions. Villeroy did not conceal the fact that the Spanish had proposed a defensive alliance with France. France replied that she was willing provided this step did not compromise her with her other allies.* The English Ambassador reported home at once, that there was a disposition towards the match. The question having arisen whether the King of France should go into mourning for the Prince, and some having observed that the King of England did not go into mourning for the Duke of Orleans, the Queen Mother decided that he should and so should the Court; and to the Ambassador, when conveying the news of the Prince's death, she showed great grief. In France generally the Prince's death is considered a gain and conducive to quiet; for, I know not on what foundation, there are reports that the Prince had designs and was in close understanding with the French Huguenots, of great weight with the Dutch, and had schemes of moment afoot in Germany, besides being little friendly to this Crown; in this, they lay much to the charge of Soissons, who was endeavouring to secure strong places and ports in Normandy. I merely report this, for, as I say, I have no sure grounds to allow me to assert its truth. As to Rohan and the Huguenots it is thought that, after the death of the Prince, they will prove more tractable.

The Prince de Joinville has not been able to get leave to go to England and so to-morrow he will send in his place M. de la Font, who will also take some orders from the Queen to her Ambassador on the subject of the said match.

Paris, 11th December, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec. 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

715. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

I gathered from what Villeroy said to me that the rumours about the Prince's designs were not vain; and that the probability of a match with England is great.

The other day on an *Arrêt* of Parliament a book written by a German called Schioppius (*Topio*) was burned by the public executioner because it contained passages which attacked the King of England and the memory of Henry IV.

Paris, 11th December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 13. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

716. To the Ambassador in England.

We have received your despatch of the 9th of last month with our usual satisfaction. We understand the preparations that are making against the marriage of the Princess, especially among

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Ambassadors; we consider it right that we should follow the example of other Sovreigns to maintain the dignity of the Republic. We are aware of the extraordinary charges to which you were put in this and other Embassies; they have affected your private purse. We have, accordingly, provided two thousand crowns without obligation to present accounts, and this sum will be paid here to your agent. Motion made to vote the said sum of two thousand crowns.

Ayes 128.	Ayes 132.	
Noes 23.	Noes 23.	Not carried.
Neutrals 17.	Neutrals 16.	

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 14. Minutes of the Senate, Roma. Venetian Archives.

717. To the Ambassador in Rome.

Announcing that the Council of Ten, after getting from Giorgio Cardosa all that they thought necessary, have set him free.

The same to Germany, France, England, Savoy, Milan, Florence, Naples.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 20. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

718. The motion of the 13th was again put with a change of the sum from two thousand to one thousand five hundred crowns.

Ayes 164.	
Noes 15.	Carried.
Neutrals 10.	

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 15. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

719. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

The Grand Duke communicated to me the news of the Prince's death. He said that may be God intended to chastise that Kingdom. The Catholics might have entertained hopes, as the Prince was not hostile to them.

He told me he had discussed Turkish affairs with Sir Thomas Glover, who had passed through Florence recently. It is two months since he left Constantinople.

Florence, 15th December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

720. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Acknowledges receipt of despatches of the 15th November, reporting the vehement and angry representations of the Spanish Ambassador about the arrest of Cardosa, the reply of the Senate and the summary of the report by the Council of Ten on the conduct of the said ambassador in sheltering bandits. As to the case of Castelvetro, cited by the Ambassador in support of his claim, I can easily, if required, adduce proof that the case is quite different.

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The resolve of the second son of Modena to enter your service arrives at the right moment, as you will see from the enclosed. He cannot, however, claim the supreme command, nor should a question of a little more or a little less as regards salary stand in the way when it is a matter of having troops at your disposal. If I were on the spot I think I could easily settle the matter in a few words, but there are not wanting able men who can do it as well and better than I. The example of Modena will probably induce other Princes to offer men for your service. Troops can be raised here and in Holland, but the distance is great and many must die on the road; so that such levies must count for a second rather than for a first campaign; whereas Modena is near and Mantua contiguous. Prince Henry is leaving to-morrow. He hopes, after accompanying the Elector and the Princess to their States, to go to Venice. I assured him of the reception that awaited him. M. de Plessen came to see me to-day. He is anxious that the marriage should take place as soon as possible, without waiting till May. He urged me to say a good word to the King to this effect, should an occasion offer. The Ambassadors of France and the States will do likewise. He discussed the Diet which is to meet in April, and the assembly next month of the Confederated Princes, to come to some agreement about Mühlheim and about the claims of Saxony, to which Brandenburg will certainly not assent. He told me that the English Ambassador (Le Sieur) was already at the Imperial Court, and had been to Düsseldorf to see the Princes. He must have gone through Heidelberg, capital of the Palatinate. There is no news from him, though it is expected every moment. The Palatine has great need to return to his States, especially as the Diet is coming on. I am informed from a sound quarter that the King will not hear of the marriage taking place before the date established, by which time everyone would be out of mourning and the wedding could be celebrated with pomp.

On Saturday the Spanish Ambassador came to visit me. He told me that his successor is not coming, as he has been made President in Seville; the revenues of that city and the arrival of the *flotta* in which the King has a share would mean a great sum, but it is all spent in advance, as is the money from the *flotta* which has not yet come in. The administration of money in Spain is bad; everyone wants a share. He said that in Germany there was hope of a powerful movement against the Turks, as all the younger Princes were inclined to it. The Persian Envoy had vigorously pressed his requests, and the answer would be given in the Diet in April. I pointed out how necessary it was to have able Envoys to bind Princes together and how his Master needed ministers such as he at every Court. He replied that in his opinion the success of negotiations depended on dexterity and phlegm. The French Ambassador, who came to see me, asked what news I had from Venice; he then said that in April they intended to give the Garter to the Palatine and to Maurice. He seemed to think that the Spanish aim was peace. The Spanish Ambassador has sent couriers to Spain on the subject of certain Spanish vessels plundered by the English some months ago, nor does there seem to be any disposition to give aught but fair words. Whether the King of Spain would or would not have consented to the Savoy match

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no one can know. His Ambassador had precise orders, but since they came too late the whole lies buried with him.

London, 21st December, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec. 21. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

721. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

News from the Hague that the States General have continued their Ambassador at Constantinople for another four years, and are fitting out a great ship with presents for the Sultan. Some of the leading merchants of Amsterdam will leave to take possession of the Consulates of Aleppo, Cairo, Caffa and other places in the Turkish Dominions. Their trade in those parts grows rapidly. Only a few days ago nine ships laden with silk, cotton and other rich merchandize of great value have arrived, besides the six ships which came in a little earlier with the good fortune of a quiet passage and large gains. The Dutch have resolved to support the "possessioners" should Spinola, either with Spanish or Imperial forces, attempt any thing against them. The Ambassador of Brandenburg, having got all he wanted, has left the Hague on the 9th.

There is an uncertain report by way of Sweden that the Muscovites have elected as their Grand Duke the brother of the King of Sweden.

The Palatine, who has been here twice only since the King's departure, left again to join his Majesty, who will be at Theobalds on Monday, and three days later in London, when he will grant audience of condolence to the Ambassadors. The King has not yet filled up Lord Salisbury's posts of Lord Treasurer and of first Secretary of State. It is expected he will do so on his arrival. There is news that Gabaleone has reached Paris.

London, 21st December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 22. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives

722. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Although negotiations for the English match are at an end the Grand Duke has written a letter of condolence to the King, professing his devotion, *as, I am informed, they do not wish to abandon all idea of a matrimonial alliance with that Crown.*

News from Marseilles that three great ships from Syria, laden with silk, cotton and other merchandize, have reached that port, which is rapidly growing.

Florence, 22nd December, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec. 23. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

723. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and after a pause expressive of sorrow, spoke as follows:—

He cannot find words adequate to the loss, not only to the King, but to all the world, which the untimely death of one of its greatest ornaments has occasioned. No one has lost more than his Serenity.

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"The Prince was prouder of nothing than of your regard, and desired above everything to prove this on every occasion. Your Serenity has shown a like disposition in the courteous representations you made to me on the subject, for which I should have come sooner to tender thanks, but I thought that the interposition of a little time would, as is usual, bring some alleviation to our grief. Such is not the case. The pain grows greater. The King was at the very summit of felicity; all his affairs were prospering; his kingdoms were united and at peace, his royal house fairly based upon a progeny not so numerous as to cause confusion; it was honoured and surrounded by powerful allies, and was on the point of extending its relations, for which event the Court, the people, the entire country was rejoicing, when lo! in a moment, all is turned to grief and mourning. It is a fate which pursues our island; this is the seventh eldest son who in the course of two hundred years has been carried off in the flower of his age by a sudden death. The Prince went to a ball given in honour of the Palatine; there he fell ill, on the 3rd of last month, of a continuous fever that became violent and malignant, refusing to yield to any medicine or remedy. He died, leaving the Court plunged in the bitterest grief. To satisfy public opinion, as the times are full of evil deeds and men's tongues prone to wag, the body was opened and a careful examination showed that this blow came solely from the hand of God, who has called him to Himself to bestow upon him celestial gifts, the kingdoms of this world being all inadequate to the merits of so great a Prince, who was gifted with singular qualities of virtue, propriety, piety mingled of goodness and modesty, in spite of the fact that he was mighty and young, conditions in which we often meet with arrogance and incontinence; these, however, he expelled by the reasonableness of his mind, so that he felt no inordinate passions, but was entirely dedicated to generous thoughts, virtuous actions, glory. So well grown was this noble tree that it promised most savoury fruit to delight the world. He was, moreover, admirably endowed with those secondary gifts of beauty and agility of body, gifts which waxed daily, as he took daily exercise on horse or on foot, or handled his weapons. His household was as it were an academy of young nobles submitted to the severest discipline and entirely devoted to the pursuit of glory, so that the noblest deeds were confidently expected of them. But now all these hopes are dashed by this immature and furtive demise. He faced sickness and death with the highest courage, and made his end in piety, and showed that he was grateful to God who desired to bestow on him greater glory than could fall to him here below. His younger brother remains and greatly resembles him in vivacity of spirit and readiness in all things. Thus in our grief there remains this consolation, that if a fair bough has been lopped off another springs in its place, and the roots of this noble tree are still alive in their Majesties the King and Queen, both sound, both young enough to hold out hopes of further offspring. Nothing remains for me to say save to express the utter grief of the King and Queen; but that would require tears not words, and may be left to understanding of Your Serenity."

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The Doge made a formal reply, declaring the attachment of the Republic to his Majesty.

The Ambassador returns thanks for the honour paid him by sending two *Sarii* of the Cabinet to offer condolences. He will report all to the King; he apologises for having sent his Secretary instead of coming in person.

The Doge replied with his wonted benignity.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 23. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

724. CHRISTOFORO VALIER, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the DOGE and SENATE.

To-day, while I was making up the ordinary despatch, a cha'ush was sent by the Grand Vizir to summon me to audience. At the same time other three were sent to call the Ambassadors of France, England and Holland (Fiandra), bidding us all come together to him at once. I obeyed and so did the others, thinking that there must be some affair of great importance on hand. The English Ambassador waived the question of French precedence which usually prevents them from meeting in public. Accordingly we all four went together to the Grand Vizir, expecting to hear some strange news. No sooner had we reached his serraglio than we were introduced into the usual chamber, and presently into a more inner room, where the Pasha soon made his appearance. He saluted us graciously and then proceeded to say that as he was the supreme minister of his Sovreign he was bound to watch over the interests of his Master, as were all his other servants, whom his Majesty had raised from such humble nests and nourished and reared by offices and even by his very blood, as he gave them his daughters in marriage. The Janizzaries and the military generally had greatly increased, compared with past ages, and this had seriously affected the Treasury; he therefore thought it just that all foreign merchants should pay the casaplick, a tax of one per cent. applied to the up-keep of the Janizzaries. He had discussed the matter with other Pashas. Orders had been made out for all the ports, but he had chosen, for our satisfaction, to give us notice first of all, being persuaded that for so small a sum we would not annoy him by refusal. In truth the Pasha's request was very far from the thought of each one of us, and we all replied expressing our great surprise at his demand: we said this was not a point that lay with us to concede, for as this was an innovation contrary to our capitulations we felt bound to refer to our Sovreigns, as our powers were not sufficient to permit of our acting differently. All the same we could not help pointing out that the grandeur of so mighty a Prince should not shrink from a small increase in expense due to the increase of his forces, and everyone would resent this innovation which had been attempted on other occasions, though without success owing to the injury it necessarily brought to the interests of his Majesty himself. The Pasha replied that he was aware that at the time he was in service in the Serraglio this plan had been put forward, but that nothing had been done because the Vizirs of that day were peculators; that he might of himself have issued the orders without informing us, and that we should have been bound to submit, but as a mark of friendliness he had sent to summon us, that after taking counsel together we might grant our free consent, otherwise he would not fail to do his duty by

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his Master and no one would have any ground for complaint. These and other arguments he repeated, declaring that we might consult among ourselves, but that he could not wait till we had consulted our Sovreigns and awaited their pleasure. I knowing that this proposal would be more damaging to Venetians, who trade in all ports of this Empire, than to anyone else, added that the capitulations established now for so many years ought not to be modified to our prejudice; during the time of his predecessors the Casaplick was not enforced owing to many difficulties in the way, and therefore far less did I expect molestation under his regime which was marked by such perfect justice. His Lordship should bear in mind especially that burdens on merchandize were a burden on his subjects, for merchants would be forced to raise their prices, and this would run dead counter to the great pains he was at to keep the city and the country fully supplied to the relief and comfort of the people. Moreover, our Sovreigns would not permit their subjects to be bound beyond the capitulations; the certain consequence would be a decline in commerce with corresponding fall in revenue. The Pasha replied that if he were seeking to impose a tax not paid by the Turks themselves, then our Sovreigns might have grounds of complaint, but seeing that the Turks paid this tax it was only fair that others resident in the Turkish dominions should also pay it. He was quite willing that we should consult among ourselves but not that we should write to our Sovreigns, as that would only be done to gain time; for each of us would ask for six months or a year in which to present our answer. If in so small a matter we were not willing to gratify him, making much of what was of little moment, we would force him to take into consideration the bad quality of the cloth and silk imported by our countrymen, and to prohibit the purchase, as the silks of Damascus and Aleppo, which were of a quality as good as that of any other country and Babalonian silks also, were quite able to meet the demands of Constantinople and the whole country without having recourse to outsiders. He said we were plenipotentiaries of our Sovreign as he of his, and could act and then report, as he intended to do in this matter, in which he should only inform the Sultan after the deed was done. The Pasha spoke very quietly, and while the conference was going on he ordered sherbet and black water (acqua nera), but we remained firm on our first point, that we must report home and that the answers would soon arrive; our ground was that we were merely ministers and agents of our Sovreigns, without power to innovate or alter in the smallest degree that which had been established on such solid basis by the capitulations. Nothing we could say satisfied the Pasha: and so seeing his determination we resolved to consult among ourselves on his proposal and to make the suitable reply which certainly could not be any other than that we had already given; and with that we took our leave, being most courteously treated.*

The mover in this affair is, I am told, the Defterdar who thought of it along with the Emin Grande. This man has offered to pay to the Sultan the four hundred thousand sequins of debt left by his predecessor and also another hundred and twenty thousand in three years if he gets this tax in the city alone; and so the Grand Vizir under the

* Tamarind.

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influence of these two shows himself most violent. What makes us fear his firmness in the affair is the fact that he has consulted all the Pashas and that he talked to the Ambassadors all together; for the more public the matter is made the firmer is he likely to stand. However, as all the Ambassadors are united and determined to resist the threatened danger, nothing that is proper will be left undone.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 23rd December, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Dec. 24. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

725. VICENZO GUSSONI, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the DOGE and SENATE.

I have very recent letters from Paris which put a rather different complexion on the facts of the Prince's death. I am told that the negotiations for a match between Mad^me^. Christine of France and the English Prince are on foot.

Turin, 24th December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding Despatch.

726. The death of the Prince of Wales has broken off your negotiations. It is received with joy or grief according to people's hopes and fears. It seems that the English will not have it believed that poison had anything to do with it.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 29. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

727. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

After the Prince's body had lain a month at St. James' Palace, with the same service and order of meals as when he was alive, it was at last borne to the grave in the Church of Westminster with the ceremony I will now relate.

First came two hundred poor in mourning, then came the servants of gentlemen, esquires, knights, baronets, barons, viscounts and earls. Following these some drums preceding the great standard, borne by a baronet and followed by two hundred and forty servants and officials of the lower household. A herald preceded the Prince's Coronet with the three plumes, carried by a knight. Then came the servants of barons, viscounts, earls, of the Duke of Lennox and of the Lord High Chancellor of England. Trumpets in front of the banner of Carrick and a horse trapped in black cloth with the arms of the county. Servants of the Archbishop of the Prince Palatine and of the present Prince. More heralds and the banner of the county of Chester, borne by a baron, and a horse also draped in black cloth with the arms of the county; a number of officers of the household in nine ranks, followed by the architect, the paymasters and the book-keepers, servants of the sacristy, deacons, gentlemen of the chapel, musicians, doctors and chaplains. The ensigns of the Duchy of Rothesay borne by a baron and a horse caparisoned like the others; his Highness's attorney and counsel; gentlemen and esquires of the presence, sewers, carvers, butlers; gentlemen in ordinary and

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extraordinary of the privy chamber, knights ordinary and extraordinary of the same; pages and others of the bed chamber. Heralds; the banner of the Duchy of Cornwall, borne by a baron, and a horse caparisoned as above. Gentlemen of the Prince Palatine, the Secretary, the Receiver General, Treasurer and Master of the Household to the Prince with their white wands in their hands. Banner of the Prince of Scotland borne by Viscount Fenton; a horse like the rest; younger sons of Barons; the Chancellor of the Prince; Knights; Privy Councillors; eldest sons of Barons; six Scotch Barons; standard of the Prince of England, France and Ireland and the standard of Wales, borne by Viscount De Lisle (*Lili*); a horse as above; younger sons of the Earls; eldest sons of Viscounts; thirty-two English Barons; the Earl of Exeter; the Prince's Chamberlain, with a wand; the Lord High Chancellor; Prince Henry of Nassau; the Archbishop of Canterbury with a group of Bishops in rochets and black robes; the great standard of the Prince, with his arms embroidered, borne by the Earl of Montgomery supported by Argyle, a Scot. The mourning charger caparisoned in black velvet, led by the Grand Esquire; the spurs, gauntlet, helmet, shield and sword and coat of mail, borne by six heralds; the Marshal of the Household with forty grooms. Then came the body of the Prince on a great open carriage drawn by six roans, draped in black velvet; the arms of the Prince, and on the topmost point the image of the Prince, life-size; at the feet sat the Master of the Wardrobe,* who was his great favourite. Four Barons watched the corpse, over which was a baldachino borne by six Baronets, with twelve others on each side, with little banners; before them went the King-at-Arms on horseback and the Esquire to Prince Charles. Behind the bier came the Prince, supported by the Earl of Northampton and the Duke of Lennox, his train borne by a Baron, and surrounded by twelve Earls, the highest of this realm. Then the Elector Palatine, with ten German Counts; the charger of State, richly caparisoned and led by the late Prince's Master of the Horse. The Palatine's Councillors, the officers of the Horse to the late Prince, and his guard. All this great company—which exceeded two thousand persons, all dressed in black, but in various kinds of robes, the Prince and Palatine alone with trains—passed in perfect order and filled the whole road, more than a mile long, from the Palace of St. James' to the Church of Westminster, so that as the head of the procession entered the Church the tail had not yet left the Palace. The crowd was marvellous. All the houses filled with ladies and the nobility. Every standard was preceded by trumpets and heralds and horses with black plumes and caparisoned. Near the corpse the number of trumpets was greater, and by the sound of their funeral march, most beautifully played, they drew tears from the eyes of all who heard. At the door of the Church were all the clergy robed; the bier was borne shoulder high by knights to the catafalque, which was raised in the form of a pyramid; all the church was hung in mourning. The Archbishop delivered the funeral oration, which lasted two hours. He praised the loftiness of the Prince's ideas, and concluded by dwelling on the

* Sir David Murray.

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fragility of human life and hopes. Then, by the sound of the trumpet, all the officers were summoned to render their last service to the dead. The five chief officers broke their wands over the grave, and so ended their duties as, a month ago, all their hopes had died. Now began the funerals, with dirges, and for three consecutive days offices for the dead were celebrated with chants and psalms. A rich tomb of marble and porphyry is being prepared, and many statues; it will take a long time and cost much. Meantime the leaden coffin has been covered with velvet richly embroidered with gold and pearls.

London, 29th December, 1612.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 29. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

728. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador is spreading it about that the Duke of Rohan is entirely settled with the Queen, while the English Ambassador in France assures the King that the Duke has one hundred thousand francs from the Huguenots, to whom he has always communicated all the Queen's proposals. The Ambassador adds that the Huguenots have renewed their demands and sent deputies along with letters from Rohan and that the Queen has refused to receive either; instead, some foot and horse have been despatched towards S. Jean d'Angelly. Rohan asks neither pension nor anything else from the Queen; he says he is the servant of no one but the King. De Bouillon and Lesdiguières, who are attached to the Queen and are in receipt of large pensions, have certainly come to an understanding with Rohan and Sully, and there are those who think that if the affairs of France become complicated they all will stand together.

Agents from de Bouillon, Conti and Joinville are here to condole on the death of the Prince. If the Queen will allow him Joinville intends to be here for the fête which will be held in May to celebrate the marriage. These gentlemen have been to visit me, and if they have any other mission than that of condolence I hope to find it out in a few days.

On the 20th the Chancellor of Denmark and two Privy Councillors passed the frontier to confer with three Swedish Commissioners. They will consult with the envoys from England, Holland and the federated Princes upon the subject of peace. There is only one point of difficulty. Sweden desires the restoration of three places in Gothland which were lost to Denmark and which Denmark refuses to surrender; it is hoped, however, that the match which is on foot will lead to an accommodation. Meantime there is a truce. Last week an agent from Denmark arrived to give an account of how the King stood. Yesterday he saw the Queen, who begins to receive, though still in deep sorrow for the death of the Prince. *The Archbishop of Canterbury, who holds the highest place in the Council, told me* that in several Spanish ports they are arming galleons and that one must have an eye on Ireland. On his Majesty's return to London to-morrow, the question will

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be raised in Council. He discussed the present condition of Ireland, comparing it with its past and concluded that then there were three or four rebellious chiefs, of weight, supported by Spanish gold, now these are crushed and all the principal places are carefully guarded. In Virginia, but one hundred and fifty miles away from the King's territory, there are Spaniards; after Christmas they are to begin sending ships and before Easter nine or ten will be dispatched. Up to now there have been three strong places in Virginia and they are finishing the fourth, all well found in men and arms and provisions, so there is no cause to fear in those parts.

The Prince Radzivill* has been here lately; I have had him twice to dine with me and done all I could to attach him to your Excellencies; he has left for Paris and will be back in May to assist at the marriage.

London, 29th December, 1612.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Dec 29. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

729. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Besides the letters of condolence which the Grand Duke sent to the King of England, I learn that his Highness† has commissioned Lotti to declare that he is ready to do all he can to please and serve his Majesty; intending thereby an offer of the third Princess for the present Prince when he has reached marriageable age. The King's reply will be scrutinized in order to judge of the possibility of negotiating.

Florence, 29th December, 1612.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Dec. 30. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy, Venetian Archives.

730. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

I am told that the match between Mad^me^ Christine and the English Prince is quite true. The French Ambassador said that in France they held that the Prince of Wales died of poison, and added "*and what is worse is that some hold that his father was an accomplice in the murder, as he was grown jealous of the Prince's vast designs. It is said he was in alliance with Count Maurice, and aspired not only to machinations against his father but to other warlike enterprises in support of the Huguenots. (Ripigliò dicendo, e quel ch'è peggio che alcuni sono di parere che il Rè suo padre sia stato comparticipe della sua morte ingelosito per quanto s'intende, de gli arditi pensieri del principe suo figlio; et vien detto si fusse unito Col Conte Mauritio di Fiandra et aspirasse non solo a machinationi contra il padre ma anco ad altri pensieri di guerra a favore de gli Ugonotti.)*

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. 1611-1618. p. 133. Warrant to Attorney-General to draw a licence [in favour of Radzivill] for sole making and importing of bay salt for thirty-one years.

† Decipher reads "Francesi" but cipher N 57 = Altezza.

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The Ambassador told me that it was thought certain that the match with the Palatine would fall through, as his manners were so rude and his habits so disgusting that any dealing with him was repulsive.

Turin, 30th December, 1612.

[*Italian ; the part in italics deciphered.*]

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1613. Jan. 3. Collegio, Secreta, Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

731. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and said:

"The reason that brings me here this morning is far removed from my mourning robes which I wear for the death of a Prince, for I am come to offer congratulations to another Prince, though he is not present, a Prince who by the Grace of God has reached to hale old age. History shows how closely bound together have been the Kingdom of England and the Republic to their mutual benefit on important occasions, though they are far away from one another. Though three New Years' days have passed since I came here, I am prouder of nothing than that I shall return to my country without a single cloud having arisen during this whole period." Francesco Moresini, the senior Councillor present, replied.

The Ambassador said he had delayed to present his compliments until his letters arrived from England, so that he might give news of that Court, but unfortunately, by whose fault he knew not, the cover of the despatch alone without any enclosure had been delivered at his house. Moresini replied that he was sorry to hear of this, and Antonio Priuli, Procuratore and *Savio* of the week, asked if the Ambassador knew whether this had happened inside or outside the State of Venice. The Ambassador said he knew nothing. Priuli then told the Ambassador that Foscarini's despatches showed that the King was well, and was about to return to London, where the wedding was to take place in May.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 5. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

732. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King was here this day week. I at once went to kiss his hand and to congratulate him on his return. He expressed his thanks in very warm terms. He then fell ill and has been for four or five days in bed with a pain in his side and right arm, the

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beginnings of gout and some fever caused by the pain. All the same, they hope that he will be up again in two or three days. No ambassador has had audience since the death of the Prince, but they will be received as soon as the King is better. I am sure of being admitted in the order and with the ceremony that is due to your Excellencies, as I have taken care to secure. I will then present your Excellencies' letters. Four days ago the Secretary of the Ambassador in Spain was here; a Council was held in the morning and in the afternoon. The alarm about Ireland and Virginia is growing, and they are studying the way to meet it. The Spanish Ambassador has had no other satisfaction than words in the affair of the plundered ships. It is believed that in Germany the spring will not pass in peace.

The request of the Palatine that the marriage should take place at once has proved efficacious with the King, who has given orders that every one is to go out of mourning on March the 14th and to don gala dress. The officers of the Court and of the Crown have issued the necessary orders for the solemn celebration of the marriage in a way that befits the only daughter of so great a King. The post of Governor to the Prince is being eagerly sought by all the great nobles; but as the Queen has begged the King to leave that duty to her it is likely that he will not refuse to allow the mother to have the charge of her only son.

On the last day of last month the King, on a sudden resolve, gave the Garter to the Elector, who went to Windsor the day before yesterday, accompanied by the knights, to take the usual oath. The first ceremony was conducted privately in the King's Chamber; the knights wearing their robes over their mourning; the other ceremony will be conducted in a like manner. The King is doing all he can to forget his grief, but it is not sufficient; for many a time it will come over him suddenly and even in the midst of the most important discussions he will burst out with "Henry is dead, Henry is dead." (*Procura la Maestà sua divertir quanto può dal dolore per la morte del Principe, ma non è quanto intieramente basti; perchè ben spesso si risente d'improviso, et dice anco nel mezo de' i più importanti ragionamenti Henrico è morto, Henrico è morto.*)

There is news from France that the Queen has broken up the Huguenot Diet, granting some of the points they claim. But the Duke of Rohan and others are very ill-satisfied with the three who govern as they choose. My informant is in a position to know, and he assures me that since the death of Henry IV. the pensions have risen till they now exceed by three hundred thousand crowns a year the revenue; this is serious; the treasure in the Bastile is gone. Sully told me that of the vast treasure which existed at the death of King Henry nothing now remained but one million six hundred thousand crowns.

The day before yesterday an Ambassador from the Duke of Lorraine* arrived. I sent to wait on him. He comes to condole. Ambassadors from Neuburg have reached England for the same

* *See* Birch. "*Court and Times of James I.*" p. 1, 217. "He had audience on Monday, and is a very proper, comely man, bastard, they say, to the Cardinal of Guise that was strangled at Blois."

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purpose, and to negotiate. The gentlemen from Conti and Joinville are usually with the Ambassador of Lorraine. He first told me of a violent scene between the Duke of Guise and the Chancellor. Guise told the Chancellor that the nobility of France would not stand being ill-treated; that he himself could always have two or three thousand gentlemen at his back for the Queen's service, his own and that of his friends; he declared that if the door were shut against him he would kick it in. The Chancellor replied that he took these words for a bad sign, and the Duke said "Yes! a bad sign for you; for I'll open a way for myself with the sword wherever I choose."

The latest news from Düsseldorf is that the "possessioners" are closely united. Both are afraid of the arms of Austria and of Flanders. Count Furstenberg and two Imperial Councillors are in Aix-la-Chapelle. They demand the restoration of the old magistracy and the free exercise of the Catholic rite. They have invited the citizens to lay down their arms and to restore the Jesuits to their property and monasteries; they added that if any difficulty were raised his Cæsarean Majesty would know how to exact obedience for his commands by force. An assembly is to meet at Erfurt, where the Landgrave of Hesse, the Marquis Ernst of Criembach and two other Commissioners will discuss the Cleves succession. The Diet of Hall will then meet to decide what help is to be given to the "possessioners."

London, 5th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 6. Collegio, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

733. VICENZO GUSSONI, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Duke, discussing the sudden death of the Prince of Wales and the rumours about it, remarked that neither the King nor the Queen were too fond of him. He was expecting Gabaleone hourly at Court. Gabaleone arrived in Turin two days ago.

Turin, 6th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 11. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

734. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Sunday, which according to this rite is the third feast of Christmas, the nuptial contract was solemnized between the Princess and the Elector. He went in the morning to the Princess's Chamber, gave her his right hand and led her to the King's Chamber, surrounded by her ladies. There they kneeled to receive the blessing which his Majesty gave. They then went to the Great Hall, where all their festivities are held. There they found the Prince, and presently the King took his seat. The Princess, with the Elector by her, then stood forth from the baldachino. The Hall was all hung with tapestries. Standing opposite each other thus, Lake, who fills the post of Secretary, read a form of contract and

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pledge, quite brief in terms. Then the Palatine said, "I, Frederick, Elector of the Holy Roman Empire, Count Palatine of the Rhine, Duke of both Bavarias, take you Madame Elizabeth, daughter of the most powerful, high and glorious King of Great Britain, for rich or poor, for well or ill, to be my wife while life me lasts." Then the Princess, when the Elector had ceased, said, "And I, Elizabeth,"—repeating the same words. The Archbishop then gave the blessing, and added a few words. The King withdrew to his Chamber, and so did the Elector after accompanying the Princess so far. They dined with his Majesty, as I shall presently relate. The King would not consent to the wedding taking place at once, though many personages endeavoured to persuade him on account of the great expenses; but his Majesty stood firm, declaring that mourning should be mourning, and marriage rejoicings rejoicings. The ring was not given, nor was aught else done save what I have reported, with the sole object of stopping talk and convincing the world that the match was fixed. The Elector was in colours and gold; the Prince in black and silver. Both afterwards resumed their mourning. The marriage will be celebrated and consummated at the date I gave. The couple will be together for fifteen days; then the Elector will go to Germany, whither he is called by important affairs. The Princess will be sent by the King with a great train and will be received by the Elector, after they have seen what bent affairs may take, especially in Germany. The Queen could not be present at the ceremony as she is suffering from pain in her foot, and the King came in limping and walking with difficulty. At dinner the King pledged the Palatine without removing his hat; adding, however, with great affection, that on any other occasion he would have treated the Elector as a Prince and removed his hat, but now he wished to treat him as a son and without ceremony. They are preparing, against the marriage day, four masques, one of Earls and Barons, one of Countesses and Baronesses, the fourth of Knights, and the fifth of lovely maidens. They are to cost upwards of one hundred thousand crowns; and besides this there will be fêtes and tourneys. The Elector is awaiting letters from Heidelberg. They have been greatly delayed on account of the storm; none of last week's despatches have arrived yet. The despatch I sent with the news of the Prince's death ought to have reached you in ten days, instead it took thirteen and more, having lost three days at sea. During the last two months there have been more than three hundred wrecks with great loss of life and goods on these shores. It is believed that many pirates have also suffered, as we know that two or three of their ships have gone to the bottom.

I have now learned from a sure source the details of the despatches brought by the Secretary of the English Ambassador in Spain—namely, that the Spanish are putting together, in various ports, a fleet of eight ships of war, and that it is certain they are intended for Ireland or Virginia; he warns the Government to be on the watch and to provide a remedy, for it will depend on Don Pedro de Zuñiga's report as to the relations he has established in Ireland whether the fleet will go there or to Virginia. Here they are all agreed as to preparations but not quite as to their nature or the

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time. Finally, as regards Ireland, orders have been sent to guard the ports and towns and shores, though it is thought that the season will protect them for the present; nor are they sure that the Spanish fleet is really gathered yet. They are studying the way to fit out a number of ships, but before doing so they will await further news, and they will be ready in time, thanks to the closeness of Ireland, and the ease with which the King can fit out a fleet at very little cost, as seamen and others are bound to serve at very low rates. For Virginia, which is separated by so wide a tract of sea, all are agreed that the garrisons must be strengthened with fresh forces. But of the one hundred and sixty thousand crowns which, as I informed you, was the outcome of the lottery, a large part is missing. All the same, as the Colony is supported by a large and wealthy company of merchants, a remedy will easily be found by raising a proportionate contribution from the members, and the succours despatched will be adequate to garrison and secure the four fortresses of those parts. Six days ago the Spanish Ambassador received a courier from his Master; he has not seen the King nor Council since.

London, 11th January, 1613. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 11. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

735. CHRISTOFORO VALIER, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Ambassadors of France, England, and the Dutch, as well as myself, have taken into mature consideration the urgent request of the Grand Vizir as regards the Casaplick *; we came to the resolve to offer a vigorous resistance. We determined to use the proper arguments and to strengthen them in the usual way of this country if the necessity arose. We had to come to this decision under pressure for time, for if the point remained unsettled we ran the risk of the Emin, in the Pasha's absence, enforcing the orders he had already received. We, therefore, all together, went out to find him already under canvas outside the city, and we said that we did not wish him to depart without hearing our answer, which we placed before him at great length, dwelling on the injury to our Sovreigns, and to the Sultan as well, by the breach of ancient capitulations solemnly sworn to by his Majesty. Our Sovreigns, we knew, were firmly resolved that these capitulations should be observed on both sides. Although the Turks paid the* Casaplick *they were relieved from half the other burdens which our people had to pay up to the amount of six or even seven per cent. If, as the Vizir had claimed in our previous interview, the object was to put Turk and foreigner on an equal footing, it was the foreigner who ought to be relieved. The Sultan should not condescend to such a trifling imposition as this, which, however, if enforced, would help to drive away the merchant and his goods. The Pasha listened with close attention, and replied somewhat disturbed, that he did not expect such a rebuff from us, especially as he had treated us as a true friend. If he were to compare the present capitulations with the originals there would appear many modifications in our favour which had been introduced illegally and by the mere consent of the previous Grand Vizirs; in*

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particular, the Ambassadors would not be in their present Embassies—referring, in this remark, to the old idea of removing the Embassies from Pera to Stamboul. He concluded that as this tax was intended for the benefit of the Grand Signior we ought not to oppose it. I, among others, replied that the gain to the Sultan was small, while the injury to the merchants was indubitably great. That your Serenity might easily have taxed Turkish merchants in Venice, and so might every other Sovreign, but as this would have been a breach of the covenant they had abstained to their own great disadvantage. Any variation between the original and the present capitulations could be explained by changes in the circumstances and the indisputable freedom of Sovreigns. The Pasha, who always listens to me with benevolence, did not appear to be displeased at my observations; but he repeated that we ought not to oppose the advantage of the Sultan, for neither in the Gospels nor in the Alcoran, nor in any other law could it be found that a Prince might not do in his own State whatever suited him best; he had already issued the orders and did not know what else he could do. It was answered him that it was much nearer the truth that no law permitted a Prince to break his oath. At this point the Mufti arrived and the Grand Vizir rose to receive him with the wonted honours; we also rose and then resumed our seats, and the Pasha gave the Mufti a brief account of what we claimed, and the arguments we were putting forward. The Mufti, after keeping silence for a while, was playfully urged by us to put in a good word for us. Then the Pasha sent for the sherbet and let it be understood that no change would be made for the present. For that we tendered due thanks and departed after wishing him a good journey. This affair, which was firmly fixed in the mind of the Pasha owing to the profit which the Emin promised from it, is, thanks to God, now in such a position as no one ever dreamed of seeing it. We all played our parts, and we meant next day to send the Vizir a robe in order that he might leave in our hands an order that would guarantee us against all difficulties, but as the Sultan insisted on starting that morning we could do nothing more. We hope no trouble will arise from the Emin, who hates this resolution.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 11th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Jan. 12. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

736. CHRISTOFORO VALIER, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Ambassador reports that he has got an order from the Grand Vizir keeping open the port of Alexandretta to Venetian and other merchants.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 12th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Jan. 12. Copy of Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

737. GIROLAMO SORANZO, Venetian Ambassador in Germany, to the DOGE and SENATE.

An Ambassador in Ordinary has arrived from England.

Vienna, 12th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

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Jan. 13.
Senato, Secreta, Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

738. VICENZO GUSSONI, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Gabaleone, who has returned from England, is never weary of praising the munificence of the King, who made him a Knight of the Rose (*Cavalliere della Rosa*), and gave him a beautiful diamond. He has brought most courteous letters from the King to the Duke, lamenting that the Prince's death has cut off the hopes of alliance between their houses; he adds that he is not without hope of effecting it by some other way.

Turin, 13th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 15.
Senato, Secreta. Communicate. Venetian Archives.

739. The CERTIFICATE of GAETANO'S LODGING.

Executores con. Blasphemiam. M.D.C. XII. A di 15 Zener. Alloggiate per essersi dato in nota nell' officio nostro per l'infrascritto tempo. Et partiti li Forastieri date in nota la loro partenza il giorno seguente sotto quelle pene che parerà al Magistrato.

Vicenzo Gaetano da Roma in casa de Iseppo di Rossi per giorni quindese.

MARCO TRIVISAN, Executor.
ALBERTO ZANTANI, Secr.

Jan. 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

740. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

During these last few days the Elector has made rich presents to the under-servants of the Princess in cash, to her gentlemen in gold chains, and to her ladies in jewels. The Governor and Governess received silver plate and her Highness a wreath of flowers made of diamonds, four pearl earings and two great diamonds. The King and Queen had agate bowls.

There are despatches express from Spain not only for the King, but also for the Council of Virginia. The Ambassador says he has sent agents about the country to note the ships of war which are being fitted out; in Catalonia and in the port of San Sebastian there are twenty galleons quite ready, but the victualling does not seem to be meant for a long voyage and this increases the suspicion that Ireland is the object. To the Virginia Council he writes that if the Spaniards push on to those parts they will certainly attempt to capture the Bermudas, past which the Spanish are compelled to voyage on account of the Magellan current (*corrente di Magaglianes*). This island is forty miles in circumference; its shores are rocky; it has two ports which the English fortified six months ago and there they keep a garrison of three hundred infantry. They get from the island a considerable quantity of amber, and what is more important, it is very handy for harassing the Spanish *flotta*. The Virginia Council met recently and fixed the subscription and has begun to make preparations. A courier has also arrived from Savoy; instead of taking his despatches to the Savoy agent he took

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them straight to Lake; there are letters for Rochester. The Duke says he will send an Ambassador to condole on the death of the Prince; and adds that as his Majesty has shown such a good will towards one of his daughters, he must point out that there still remains the Infanta Caterina, between whom and the Prince there is no great disparity of years. Thus he has opened the question. Wotton has letters from Gabaleone at Paris. Wotton says that when the Savoyard Ambassador arrives many questions will be dealt with. My latest news from the Hague is that the ships fitted out for the East Indies, to the number of twenty-four, are ready to sail. News from Brussels that Spinola is making arms at Naumur. The Garter has been sent to Maurice; it was conveyed by the King-at-arms, with a message that the King would be glad to see Henry here to take the oath and to be present at the wedding festivities. The Elector has news that the new magistrates in Aix-la-Chapelle have refused to reply to Furstenberg—who was sent by the Emperor and supported by Ambassadors from Cologne and Archduke Albert— until the arrival of Ambassadors from the Palatine, a Baron and one of the long robe. The "possessioners," too, have sent persons to support the new magistrates.

Three days ago two couriers arrived together from Antwerp with despatches from Venice containing an account of the affair of Cardosa and his release after the Council of Ten had got what they wanted. I return thanks for the vote of one thousand five hundred crowns; overcome by the favour; I will lend my best efforts to the service of your Excellencies.

London, 18th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

741. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Tuesday the 8th, the Ambassador of Lorraine had audience, and on the following day, the gentlemen sent by Conti and Joinville. His Majesty received first those who came expressly to condole. The Ambassador took his leave on Monday. He saw the Elector, but is leaving without having been able to kiss her Majesty's hand, as she is still in bed in great sorrow, quite unable to forget her grief. The French Ambassador has had audience of the King before all the other Ambassadors in Ordinary; then, as the Spanish Ambassador was indisposed, your Excellencies' envoy was received. I presented your letters of condolence, upon which I enlarged. While I was speaking the King showed himself deeply moved by his grief. He sighed five or six times from the depth of his heart; he changed colour and his eyes betrayed his profound affliction. He said his Ambassador had informed him of the honour bestowed upon him by the visit paid to the Embassy. As I was bowing he embraced me and held me fast, declaring that he ever desired to be closely conjoined with your Excellencies. He then told me that his Ambassador reports that the Spanish Envoy is complaining of not being treated like the others; and here the King of his own accord

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made a fresh offer of his forces at the disposition of your Excellencies. As his Majesty discoursed in praise of your Excellencies all the Councillors approved and also showed that they approved his remarks laudatory of myself. I did not desire to detain his Majesty, and so after begging him in that intimate manner which he wishes me to adopt to take heart, I assured him of a complete return of affection on the part of your Excellencies and took my leave. One of these days the Flemish Ambassador will have audience, which he has earnestly demanded. As I had my audience first your precedence is established, and in truth your Excellencies may promise yourselves everything from his Majesty.

The Duke of Mantua, by letters from his Resident in France, is asking the King to allow his Ambassador at Venice to go to the Court of Mantua so as to return in a certain fashion the mission of Signor Carlo Rossi to this Court at the time of the death of the Duke's predecessor. I, who am ever vigilant in your service, am of opinion that it would be well that the Duke should receive this favour at your Excellencies' hands, that you should show a certain gracious superiority among the Princes of Italy by extending your protection in a matter which cannot injure you and would be the affair of a mere word properly addressed to the King. I shall think over this, and if Wotton, who has the mission to speak on the subject, does not make haste, I will not let the occasion slip.

So far I have written with great difficulty owing to a serious flux in the right jaw, which keeps me in pain, owing to the extraordinary damp, which is injurious to the very natives themselves.

London, 18th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 19. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

742. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

From certain indications *I do not cease to believe that there may be some renewal of the negotiations for a match between this Crown and England.*

Madrid, 19th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Jan. 19. Senato, Secreta. Communicate. Venetian Archives.

743. While the Senate was sitting, Gregorio Monti, Secretary to the English Ambassador, appeared at the Chamber of the Chiefs of the Ten and said that, by means of the Secretary Ottobon, he had informed the Chiefs that he desired audience on the rising of the Senate, and for that purpose he would wait their convenience. Accordingly, on the rising of the Senate, the Chiefs introduced the Secretary to their Chamber and he said, "His Excellency the Ambassador kisses your hands and sends me to lay before you this, that a most serious matter has come to his ears, namely, that there is a plot against the life of the King of England. This information has been given him by a Neapolitan who came to the Embassy and told him that it was intended to send to kill the King. He named the persons who are to go and the Princes that have a hand in

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sending them, the plan to be followed, the time and the place, with other details of ships and of the port where they would land. The Ambassador showed that he did not believe the tale, but told the person to come back another day. The man did return and repeated his story word for word as on the first occasion. He returned a third time and gave consistent replies to the Ambassador's questions and stuck to his version. The Ambassador then requested him to put his information into writing and he did so with such perfect uniformity to his oral deposition, that facts and the details coincided absolutely without the slightest variation. It therefore would appear that there is some foundation for his statements. The Ambassador has written to his Majesty, and as it is clear that if this Neapolitan's tale is true he deserves a great reward, as, on the other hand, if it prove false he deserves severe punishment, the Ambassador is unwilling that he should go away, but would like to see him detained in Venice. He therefore begs your Excellencies to grant him the favour to arrest him under some pretext, but to keep him in some kindly place, and to examine him on certain points such as his being a foreigner, on the list of the Executori contra alla Bestemmia, or as a vagabond, whose business in this city requires explanation, or on some other pretext which will allow him to be detained till an answer comes from England; and this the Ambassador would receive as a signal favour in the service of his Master." The Secretary added that he would hand in the description of the person and his place of abode. The Secretary was asked to retire. The Chiefs agreed to consider the request and decided to oblige the Ambassador, but they wished first of all to find out what sort of a person this Neapolitan was, whether he was a person of importance or of small esteem, also whether he had any support from the Envoy of any great Prince. The Secretary was again introduced and the necessary questions were put to him. The Secretary replied that this man was one who might quite well be treated as foreigners are usually treated who are bound to report themselves. He was living in lodgings; he did not appear to be rich nor yet was he without a crown in his pocket. He did not strike the Ambassador as having invented the story to get money. The Secretary then said that he was lodged at San Lucca, in the house of Iseppo di Rossi; his name is Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, a Neapolitan, a man of moderate height, about twenty-two years of age, with a small moustache. His coat and cloak are of pale seagreen, the cloak has three capes inside. The Secretary concluded by begging that if they granted the Ambassador's request they would not let the prisoner know that he had been arrested at the instance of his Excellency. The Chiefs of the Ten assented in terms of courtesy towards the Ambassador and regard for his Majesty; they were sorry for the anxiety his Excellency must feel, as the report of the plot might be true; they promised to take such steps as were necessary. The Secretary begged their Excellencies to give orders that when arrested the Neapolitan should be well treated, for the Ambassador would meet all charges. The Chiefs at once issued orders.

[*Italian.*]

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Jan. 20.
Senato, Secreta. Communicate. Venetian Archives.

744. The Captain Marco di Zanchi reports that this morning early he went to the house of Iseppo di Rossi who keeps lodgings, and having assured himself that Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano was there, he found him in bed. He made Gaetano dress and brought him to S. Marco without handcuffing him. There he was placed in a chamber belonging to the *Capitano Grande*, the Chief Constable, under guard. He produced the lodging-house licence of the 15th, in which he is called Vicenzo Gaetano of Rome, with leave for fifteen days. Captain Marco also reported that when he told Gaetano he must go with him, Gaetano said "I have done nothing wrong for sure"; and while on the road he said he knew no one in Venice save a man at San Marco whose acquaintance he had made when walking in the Piazza.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 20.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

745. VICENZO GUSSONI, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The English Agent came to see me, professedly to give me an account of the negotiations for a match between his Majesty and his Highness. He says had the Prince not died, the match would certainly have come off; and the King, though it would have been easier for him to leave all the other pretenders in the belief that they might have succeeded, yet out of regard for the Duke's behaviour, had given publicity to this statement.

The Agent had suggested to the Count of Verva that if the match with the Palatine should fall through the Duke might send Prince Tommaso to England to stay at Court. The Count of Verva reported this to the Duke. Gabaleone declared that the idea was not to be despised, for the English Ministers had let fall certain phrases which he had not understood at the time, but which fitted in with this suggestion. However, all this is based on the ideas of the Agent alone and as such I send them, not meaning thereby that I believe that his Majesty has any such notions. All I know is that Gabaleone is to be sent back again to England, and they are looking about for a person of position to send there as Ambassador. Count Emmanuele di Moretta and Count Visca are mentioned.

Turin, 20th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 21.
Senato, Secreta. Communicate. Venetian Archives.

746. The SECRETARY of the ENGLISH AMBASSADOR came to the CHIEFS OF THE TEN and said:—

The Ambassador returns thanks for the courtesy shown, and wishes to know if the person has been arrested and examined, and if so what sort of a person he proves to be, and whether they had learned anything that the Ambassador should know in order to inform the King. The answer was that the man had been arrested, but nothing else had been done, for there had not been time. The Secretary said that the Ambassador desired that he

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should be examined to find out what sort of a person he was, and to see whether anything could be discovered. The Chiefs requested the Secretary to withdraw for a little, but they presently learned that he had left the Palace.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 21. Senato, Secreta. Communicate. Venetian Archives.

747. On the 19th of this month the Secretary of the English Ambassador applied to the Chiefs of the Ten on the subject of information which he says was given him about a plot against the life of the King of England. The person who laid the information was arrested. He is a certain Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano. The Ambassador asked that he should be examined. All this is to be brought before the Cabinet, so that the necessary steps may be taken and the proper report made to the Senate. Secrecy enjoined. Should the Ambassador again come to the Council of Ten the Chiefs shall refer him to the Cabinet.

The oath was administered on the missal and the names taken.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 21. Consiglio de'Dieci, Parti Secrete. Venetian Archives.

748. An order to communicate to the Cabinet all that has passed between the Chiefs of the Ten and the English Embassy in the matter of Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, so that along with the Senate they may take the necessary steps.

Should the Ambassador come again to the Chiefs he is to be referred to the Cabinet.

Ayes 15.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 2.

The communication was made to the Senate on the 24th.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 22. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

749. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

Last week despatches arrived from England for the Ambassador instructing him to advance in the negotiations for a marriage between the Prince and the second Princess of France. Villeroy declared the Queen most ready, not only for the advantage that would accrue to her son and to France, but also in her own interests, which required that she should form a party for herself which would counteract the Spanish, who would certainly endeavour to diminish her influence and augment that of their Princess. Villeroy announced his resolve to retire from public life. From such favourable beginnings a prosperous issue may be expected. But the Spanish who have got wind of the negotiations are working underhand to thwart them. There is no Spanish Ambassador here just now, but there are those who act for Spain, and I am told that the recall of Don Inico and the delay in appointing a successor are due to the suspicion of the Queen and the desire to protract all business till the Princess reaches France, when they

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hope to have so much weight with the King, who will then be of age, that they can prevent the English match altogether.

The late English Ambassador at Constantinople was here a few days ago. He left without seeing the King, for as he is an Ambassador from merchants rather than from a Sovreign he would not have been received as he wishes (*perchè essendo più tosto Ambasciatore de Mercanti che del Rè non sarebbe stato trattato come pretendeva*).

Paris, 22nd January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 24. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

750. The SECRETARY PADAVINO came to the CABINET and on the orders of the Chiefs of the Ten made the following report:—

This morning the Secretary of the English Ambassador came to the Chiefs to return thanks for the favour shown him by the arrest of that person who had revealed to him what he had already communicated to their Excellencies, and to assure them that his Majesty would be much obliged by this sign of good will. The Ambassador now begs that the prisoner may be examined or that in some way or other more light may be thrown on the matter, for to-morrow is despatch day and he wishes to forward some information to his Majesty, who is naturally expecting it anxiously. Moreover, since the arrest of this man, two others, who were perhaps in his company, have fled the city. Neither the Secretary nor much less the Ambassador could go about making enquiries; they are both too well known and the affair would become public, to the injury of the matter in hand. The Ambassador, therefore, begged their Excellencies to oblige him, so that if this prove to be a trick they may proceed in one way; if it turns out to be true they may act as the occasion requires. The Chiefs had replied that they had arrested the man to please the Ambassador, but the matter belonged to the Cabinet, to which he should apply.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 24. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

751. That the ENGLISH AMBASSADOR be invited to attend the CABINET to-morrow morning, and that the following be read to him:—

My Lord Ambassador, the request which was addressed, in your name, by your Secretary to the Chiefs of the Council of Ten for the arrest of Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, on account of the notice which he gave you of certain machinations against the life of the King of Great Britain, met with an immediate issue of the necessary orders to oblige you. The said Gaetano was arrested, as we held that this was required by the perfect good will which exists between the Repubic and his Majesty. As we have taken this step solely out of regard for his Majesty so we promise to keep the prisoner under safe custody until his Majesty's pleasure be known and at the disposal of your Lordship at your merest request in all that may prove to be for his Majesty's service. The Republic can not go any further in this matter, having done all it can for the satisfaction

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of his Majesty. We have thought it necessary to inform you of this, so that you may take whatever steps you consider necessary for his Majesty's service.

Further, that Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, arrested on the warrant of the Chiefs of the Ten, be kept in safe custody till further orders.

Ayes 138.
Noes 7.
Neutrals 41.

The oath was administered on the missal and the names of all present noted.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 24. Senato, Mar. Venetian Archives.

752. The Arsenal has bought from Martin Haureau and Alvise de Bois soft English lead, forty tons at 38 ducats 18 the ton.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 24. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

753. To the Ambassador in England.

The English Ambassador here sent his Secretary, a few days ago, to ask the Chiefs of the Ten to arrest Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, from whom the Ambassador had received information as to a plot against the King of England's life, as you will gather from the enclosed. The Ambassador was gratified on this point by the orders which were at once issued by the Chiefs, and Gaetano was arrested. In order to avoid further requests to examine the prisoner and to take yet further proceedings in this matter, we resolved to make the [enclosed communication to the Ambassador. As we think it desirable that you should make the necessary representations without waiting till you are spoken to, we, therefore, instruct you to seek audience at once of his Majesty and to give him a full account of all that has taken place, following the lines of the information enclosed, as a proof of our continued regard. You will add that as we took this step solely out of regard for his Majesty, so the man will be kept under custody at his disposition in all that touches his interests, which we consider the same as our own. We are unable to go further, however, in the matter, as we have done all that is possible. You are to regulate your conduct on the lines of these ideas, which are those we have expressed to his Majesty's Ambassador, and you will persuade the King that we cannot take any further action. You will also speak in the same sense to the leading ministers if they address you on the subject; and report fully to us].

Ayes	83.	Ayes	87.	Ayes	40.
Noes	2.				Not carried.
Neutrals	31.	Neutrals	31.	Neutrals	88.

The oath was administered on the missal and the names of all present were noted.

[*Italian.*]

An amendment was moved that the words within brackets be omitted and the following substituted: [all these enclosures are to

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serve for your information in case his Majesty should speak to you on the matter, when you will persuade him that all this has been done solely out of regard for him, nor can we take any further proceedings].

Ayes 67.
Noes 63.
Neutrals 52. Not carried.

Jan. 25. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

754. To the AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND.

The English Ambassador recently sent his Secretary to ask the Chiefs of the Ten to arrest a certain Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, from whom he had had information of a plot against the King of England's life, as you will gather from the enclosed. The Ambassador's request was at once granted and Gaetano arrested. In order to prevent further requests that we should examine the prisoner and take other steps in the matter we yesterday made to the Ambassador the communication of which we enclose a copy. This morning he replied in the terms which you will gather from the copy of his representations. We consider that you should make the necessary representations to his Majesty and so we commission you to seek audience and to lay before his Majesty the contents of the enclosures, and an account of our action, which we took solely as a proof of our continued esteem. You will add that the prisoner will be kept in safe custody at his disposal, and that this is the most we can do in the matter. You will conform your remarks to these ideas and will persuade his Majesty of our readiness to oblige him. Should he wish that the prisoner should be examined by us you are to use all diligence to prevent such a request from being preferred; if he persists, you are to convince him that we cannot take any steps beyond what we have done, but that he may dispose of the prisoner as he thinks fit. You will report.

Ayes 186.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 5.
The oath administered as yesterday.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 25. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

755. The ENGLISH AMBASSADOR was invited to attend in the CABINET and the resolution of the SENATE, carried yesterday, was read to him. He then said :—

I frequently abstain from troubling your Excellencies with many audiences on my Master's business, and as occasion requires I apply direct to the Magistrates, from whom I have always received complete satisfaction, as has happened precisely just now in the case of this person in question. He often came to me and laid before me the details of a plot to kill the King of England; in all particulars he was quite uniform and consistent. He begged me to provide for his safety, for as there were several of his accomplices in the city, he feared lest he should be assassinated by them, and he hinted that I might take him into my house. But as the Embassy has

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always been uncontaminated, nor have I ever given shelter to such doubtful characters who under this pretext might nourish other evil designs, I went about to secure him it is true, but myself as well, lest he should fly. Accordingly when I heard all this from him, as the matter affected the life of the King my Master, who is so devoted to the Republic, I sent my Secretary to the Chiefs of the Ten to lay the matter before them and to ask for his arrest. The Chiefs immediately, without losing time, issued the warrant and the arrest took place to my satisfaction. When I was informed of the arrest I resolved to come to the Cabinet to tender my thanks, as I do, to your Excellencies, and to beg for such further steps as may seem necessary, but as usual I find myself forestalled by the favours of the Senate; for I gather from this resolution that the prisoner is to be retained under custody; for this I return thanks and I can assure you my Master will be much obliged. As I have already reported to his Majesty I must wait his reply. For though the Ambassador is eyes and ears to his Master the final decision of things does not lie with him, especially in a matter of such importance. In the meantime I warmly beg your Excellencies to order the examination of the man in whose house this fellow was lodging, in order to see whether any information can be got on the business. I hear that after this man's arrest two or three who were lodging in the same house have fled; they may possibly have been accomplices in the plot. If this man's tale prove true he will deserve handsome reward from his Majesty, as, on the other hand, if it prove false I shall hope to have the opportunity of presenting a good man to your Excellencies' galleys, as he is young and well built.

Francesco Moresini, in the absence of the Doge, replied that they were glad to learn that the Ambassador was satisfied. They would always do everything to oblige him as far as the constitution permitted. They were sure he would never ask for anything outside their powers. His request would be considered.

The Ambassador again insisted, as he wanted to write that evening. Moresini said a resolution would be taken, though the time was very short.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 29. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Corfu, Venetian Archives.

756. The Venetian Governor in Corfu to the Doge and Senate.

Yesterday there arrived here a man in Turkish dress. He calls himself Saaban, and says he is a Spaniard, and was captured four years ago by Barbary *bertons* manned by Turks and English. There was captured along with him Don Diego, son of the Viceroy of Sicily, the Marquis of Vigliena. This Saaban while he was a Christian was called Don Pedro Peravidasbassan, son of Don Alfonzo di Venavides, second Councillor of his Majesty. He says he fled from the Serraglio of the Grand Turk, as your Serenity will see from the enclosed depositions. We have determined to send him on to Otranto to-morrow.

Corfu, 29th January, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

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Enclosed in preceding Despatch.

757. Saaban, a Turk, examined, deposed that he was a passenger on board the ship of the Corphiote Mano Mandignotti, which sailed from Bastia. He reached Bastia from Janina. He wants to return home to Spain. His father was a Spaniard of Madrid, his mother from Palermo. He is a nephew of the Admiral of the Neapolitan Squadron, the Marquis of Santa Cruz. About four years ago he and Don Diego, son of the Marquis of Vigliena, Viceroy of Sicily, were captured off Majorca by three Barbary *bertons* manned by Turks and English. They defended themselves for two days. They had 600 men on board between soldiers, merchants and sailors; 150 soldiers were killed and so was the captain by a canon ball. They were forced to surrender. Diego and himself were pointed out to the pirates as great Spanish nobles and were put under close guard. "We were taken to Algiers, and after remaining six months as slaves we were sent to Constantinople on board a ship commanded by Zafer Bey, a renegade Genoese of Constantinople, where we were presented to the Sultan as a gift from Retuan Pasha, the Viceroy of Algiers. Within fifteen days we were both made Turks on the order of the Grand Signior, who likewise ordered great festivals and rejoicings. We were then taken to lodge in the Sultan's Serraglio, and there we stayed two years and eight months. During that time by the help of the Bailo Contarini, we received letters from home and also sent them, but always secretly. We were educated in the Serraglio by Turkish masters and I had the duty of bringing the clock to the Sultan when he wanted to know what time it was, while Don Diego was charged with folding the Sultan's robes when he went to bed. Then came the time of the marriage of the Sultan's daughter to the Capudan Pasha, and we finding the opportunity favourable resolved between us two to escape from that place and to return to Christendom, for it had always been our firm intent to return home and to die Christians. Accordingly at midnight I first let myself down from a window in the Serraglio of Cigala, where they were celebrating the wedding and whither the grand Signior had come with all the Court to honour the festival; I went straight to the French Embassy, where I was hidden very secretly for a whole month. Diego, who had tried to follow me down from the window, was discovered and caught, and we could not carry out our whole plan he and I. When the Sultan heard I had fled, he ordered great diligence in the search for me. He sent to examine the houses of the Bailo and of the French and English Ambassadors; but I was so safely hidden in an empty barrel that they could not find me. After a month the French Ambassador ordered me to embark on a frigate and to go to the French Consul at Chios, and there I stayed thirty-three days. Then I went to Volo in a Greek *caramusale*, and stayed there eight days and then went to Salonica. There by dint of money I joined some Jew traders in the character of a Turkish merchant; all the same I had to hide myself during the day. After twenty-seven days at Salonica I came by land to Larissa and then to Tricala and Janina, and finally down to the port of Bastia, where the Emin kept me seven days, as he suspected I was not a Turkish merchant at all. I was obliged to leave in deposit twenty-five dollars and to promise to return to

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Bastia, but as I had no money I was supplied by a certain Alessandro of Corfu, whom I had met in the household of the Bailo at Constantinople, in the days when we were made Turks, for the Bailo was present at the festival along with his private band. My name is Don Pedro Peravidasbassan. My father's name is Don Alfonzo de Venavides, he is second Councillor at the Spanish Court; my mother's name is Catelina Bassan, she is cousin germane to the wife of the Marquis of Santa Cruz, Admiral of the Neapolitan fleet. I have no more to say."

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 1. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

758. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The day following that on which I had audience, the Ambassador of the Archduke was received. He had only two persons in his suite, and after a few phrases of condolence, and without presenting letters, he departed, making no attempt to conceal his chagrin at having been received after your Excellencies' Envoy. The fact that he presented no letters has caused surprise, as we know from his own lips that he received them many days ago. He intended to obtain the honour which has been bestowed on your Ambassador by the King as regards exemption from custom duties on a par with Crowned Heads, but on better thoughts he resolved to give it up. Thus he is very ill-pleased and remains silent.

The Queen continues in bed and the Spanish Ambassador is ill; as soon as her Majesty is better he will have audience after France, who is seeking it but in quiet terms.

The suspicion that the Spanish fleet is destined for Ireland grows; and so in addition to the orders issued for the protection of that kingdom, many burdens have been removed, which is a relief to the people, and many have had their houses changed, the more trustworthy being put nearer to the shore and the suspects inland. The Irish Parliament is to be summoned and Sir John Davys, the King's Attorney, is to go over as Speaker of the Lower House,* which is composed of the nobles and the people. Their intention is that all measures proposed by the King shall be carried in the Upper House, and to that end they are going to create sufficient new Barons to form a majority when united with those who are already dependent; this can easily be done, as there are in Ireland a large number of Bishops and four Archbishops, all of whom vote. It is forty years since an Irish Parliament sat, nor would one have been summoned now except as a necessity.

They are pressing on the despatch of two ships to Virginia, as they rely not merely on garrisoning the four forts, but on their naval forces in conjunction with the Dutch. Barneveldt has instructed the Ambassador of the States to find out where the Spanish mean to strike, and he is to do this in such a way as if he

* *See* Cal. S.P. Ireland, 1611-1612. pp. 347. 348.

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had something to communicate. The King has despatches from his Ambassador in France reporting that, two days earlier, he had had a very long talk with Villeroy on the subject of the marriage of the second Princess with the Prince. The Queen, too, has mentioned the subject to him. The French Ambassador here has caused Lord Hay to mention the matter to the King, and then placed the affair in the hands of Viscount Rochester, who has done nothing but report. The Queen of France is ready to send an Extraordinary Embassy here, and M. de Praslin is named. The English Ambassador reports this and the French Ambassador did not deny it to me the day before yesterday, but said it was a mission of condolence, which is most unlikely.

In France they are much alarmed about the Huguenots, and hope that this match may secure that the King of England will not encourage them. Here there are some who favour this match in order to make Spain anxious and to cause her to go slowly in her enterprises against Ireland and Virginia. Fresh news from Rochelle that all the population is with the Duke of Rohan, and had not the Magistrates quieted them they would have come to some violent resolve. An Envoy from Lübeck has come to the Hague to report the Imperial orders not to proceed further with the alliance; the people of Lübeck, however, intend it to take place, and in March ambassadors to ratify the treaty will arrive, and levies will be raised at once. Meantime, in the present month, they will proceed to provide money and other necessaries. Peace between Denmark and Sweden does not advance; but the truce continues.

The death of the Duke of Mantua so quickly after that of his son, his father, his mother and other Princes of his house, moves the King's pity, and had he lived the English Ambassador in Venice would undoubtedly have been sent on a mission to him. The Diet of Erfurt still continues, while the Diet of the Confederate Princes will meet in March. Then it will be settled whether the Elector Palatine and Brandenburg are to sit in the Imperial Diet which will deal with the question of the Chamber of Speyers. The point is raised by the Ecclesiastical Electors and by Saxony, and if they insist an appeal may be made to arms. It is five weeks since the King heard from his Ambassador in Constantinople, and the merchants are in the same plight; which causes much talk and murmuring. In France they receive despatches; the French Ambassador tells me that he has their contents in letters from Villeroy. The brother-in-law of the English Ambassador in Constantinople and who was in his company, says that when Sanci was at Constantinople a year and a half ago, he found means to send letters via Cologne and Germany. M. de Plessen assures me that the Turkish peace causes and will cause anxiety in Germany. On Friday, Glover, who has returned from Constantinople, arrived.

London, the first of February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

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Feb. 1.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

759. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

I enclose letters from the second son of Modena. The question of leave to raise troops in the territory of Mantua. The death of the Duke of Mantua destroys all hope of Don Vicenzo.

London, the first of February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 2.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

760. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

At Leghorn an English ship with a cargo of herrings has arrived, and another with grain from Sardinia.

Florence, 2nd February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 3.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

761. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Gabaleone came to see me and told me about his negotiations in England. He declares that he met with every courtesy from Foscarini. They are now settling who is to be sent as Ambassador to England. The Duke leans to the Marchese Villa, who is at present with the Prince of Mantua. The King of England's letter to the Infanta Maria has been presented at length. It contains expressions of affection; and shows the King's readiness to have her as a daughter-in-law. It seems that the proposal may still be made for the young Prince.

Turin, 3rd February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 4.
Minutes of the Senate. Constantinople. Venetian Archives.

762. To the Ambassador in Constantinople.

Approving his joint action with France, England and the Dutch in the matter of the Casaplick.

Ayes 161.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 5.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

763. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Agent of the Prince de Joinville has returned from England, and has filled the Court with such a good report of the young Prince that everyone desires the match.

Paris, 5th February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

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Feb. 8.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

764. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Earl of Northampton told me that in Dover, of which he is Governor, a person had been arrested on the way from Spain to Ireland, and on him were found letters of a very bad nature. Also several sets of letters from Ireland have been intercepted on their way to Spain. They contain notice of the orders issued by the King, and of the attitude of affairs in that island. On these grounds, and owing to news sent by the Ambassador in Spain, they have resolved to man four men-of-war, to act as guard-ships off the Irish coast, and also as escort for the Princess when she crosses to the Hague. Next month all the royal ships are to be put in commission. There are a great number of them, and it will be quite easy to fit them out, as two years ago full provision was made. There is an intention to regulate the usual expenses in these royal ships. He begged me to keep all this secret. The Earl of Exeter, speaking with me about the Spanish Armada, pointed out that there are now at Dunquerque a larger number of ships than in '88. He seemed to think little of them. All the militia will be called out, and there is to be a general muster. As Ireland is sufficiently protected, it is thought by those who know, that when all this movement is known in Spain, it will produce a great effect, and some half resolves may vanish. The Ambassador reports that most depends on the statements Zuñiga makes on his return, and on the relations he has established in Ireland. The majority here desire war, and as the merchants declare that they have not received justice in Spain, they frequently make reprisals against Spanish shipping. *The King is informed from various quarters that there are people here who are plotting his death; the Palatine has received a like warning. The King is very anxious, and elaborate pains are taken for his safety. Many are in prison, and weapons are removed from houses that are under the Jesuits and those who had a share in the Gunpowder Plot, or are suspect on any other conceivable ground. Extra guards patrol the city at night. The Lord Mayor has begun to make the round; the next night, which was last night, one of the Aldermen took the duty, and so they will go on from night to night.**

London, 8th February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 8.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

765. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Both *Northampton and Exeter*, who are *Councillors* of State, inform me that the negotiations for a match between the Prince and the second daughter of France are quite certain. They will continue to treat on both sides, but will not for the present conclude the match. I am assured that the King has resolved to put aside every year the two hundred and eighty thousand crowns which were assigned to the Prince, and also what was allowed to the Princess.

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Feb. 11, 1613.

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If the marriage were concluded now the French Princess would come over here to be brought up along with the Prince Charles and it would be necessary to set up a household for them, and that would use up the money they desire to lay by. All the same an Ambassador is expected who will conduct the affair. He will be well received.

The Palatine has begged that the marriage may take place on the Sunday in Carneval, and he will be gratified. They are using all diligence so that the spectacles should be got ready, even those on the water. The Scotch Parliament has voted one hundred thousand crowns for the marriage; they have also restored three Bishoprics whose revenues were seized by certain nobles. The King finds it to his interest to restrict the government of that kingdom to as few hands as possible and chooses those on whom he can rely. He has distributed a certain portion of his patrimony in that country and so has bound a certain number to him, many Scots who were here are going back to Edinburgh. The hurrying on of the wedding and the Irish Parliament delay the assembly of the English Parliament.

The Spanish Ambassador points out to me the importance of the resolution of the Hanseatic cities to join the Dutch in spite of the Imperial fulminations. He added that the Emperor has gone so far that he cannot go back now, and will be forced to go to war, which he has always professed to hate. Count Furstenberg, in spite of his threats to the new Magistrates of Aix-la-Chapelle, has gained nothing; accordingly, he has gone back to his Master after drawing up a declaration that the Imperial orders have been disregarded.

News from Brussels informs me that in the Spring there will be levies of Walloons, and the garrisons in various places are being augmented. In Liege there is provision of arms for upwards of eight thousand infantry and great stores of corn; and in the Archbishopric of Cologne as well. On the other hand, the places belonging to the "possessioners" have scanty supplies of troops and munitions; without the support of the United Provinces and the Confederate Princes they would fare ill. The Prince of Neuburg has left Düsseldorf to join his father. The ship which the Dutch are sending as a present to the Grand Turk is lying at Texel ready to sail for Constantinople, as she would have done ere this had it not been for the continual storms which for the last three months have been raging at sea and causing great loss of men and ships. The ship from every point of view is worthy of so great a monarch as is the Sultan.

The King of Sweden has entered into an alliance with some of the Hanseatic towns, and so aspires to a vigorous offensive war against Denmark. The King's General on the Muscovite frontiers has passed the border, and in a very short time, without encountering serious obstacles, he has reduced that part to obedience to his Master. The general is called Pont-la-garde, born of a French father; an officer of some repute; after long service under Charles, father of the present King, he received as wife a natural child of the house. It seems that fortune is now smiling on him.

London, 8th February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

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1613.
Feb. 11.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

766. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

I seem to gather that the Spanish, since the death of the Prince of Wales, in order to upset the marriage with the Palatine, have shown some inclination that his Majesty should marry the Princess. But the English Ambassador affirms that his Sovereign would never consent to marry his daughter into Spain, not merely not to disgust his subjects and to alarm his allies the Confederate Princes, but also to prevent the Spanish from ever getting a footing in England. It suits the King far better to oblige a great Prince of the same religion who will be sincerely attached to England.

Madrid, 11th February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 16.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

767. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Letters from Savoy excusing the delay in the arrival of the Marchese Villa, the Duke's Ambassador, to condole and to negotiate. The cause is the absence of Prince Victor. It is quite certain the Marchese will bring proposals for marriage and for an alliance, *which his Highness' Secretary thinks* may be easily accomplished. The Ambassadors of Neuburg have made two demands, one is that the King should undertake the protection of the common cause against Saxony, who is supported by Austria; the other is a request in which Brandenburg joins; the King replied that the times require Neuburg and Brandenburg to be closely united, and if they act thus he will not fail to support both. A similar answer will be given by the Dutch and by the Confederate Princes. The timidity of Neuburg is due to the fact that he is inferior to Brandenburg in forces, and he fears lest, after the affair with Saxony is over, he may be forced to accept the terms which Brandenburg may choose to impose. The Palatine has asked for the King's commands as to whether or no he should attend the Imperial Diet in person. The King has discussed the matter in Council, where the general opinion is that neither the Palatine nor Brandenburg ought to appear in person; because as Saxony stands in with the Ecclesiastics they could not outweigh them, whereas any decision taken in their absence would lose in authority. The Palatine is intending to leave in the middle of next month and to return in autumn with the Princess, who would remain here a couple of years until Prince Charles has grown stronger. Last Monday week Prince Maurice received the Garter, and to-morrow Count Henry will be here to take the oath, and to assist at the wedding. The Dutch have assigned him five hundred crowns a day, and he will be lodged by the King and receive presents.

Yesterday the Court went out of mourning and to-day his Majesty has gone to Windsor, where the Elector and Henry will take possession of their stalls and hang up their arms. In three days they will be back and will continue in jousts and fêtes for the remainder of Carnival. The Queen is rather better but not quite well enough to grant audience.

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Glover, who is back from Constantinople, was at Court six days ago. The King, through the Chamberlain, told him to address himself to Council, in which he has endeavoured to clear himself of the charge of having had dealings with Spain. It is said he spoke most eloquently. (*Il Gloufer ritornato Ambasciatore in Constantinopoli fu già sei giorni a Corte. Il Rè gli fece dire dal chiamberlano che doresse dricciarsi ad Consiglio col quale ha procurato scolparsi dell' imputazioni dategli che haresse haruto qualche relatione con Spagna, et vien detto habbia parlato con molta eloquenza.*) He has given in private conversation some account of the affairs of the Porte. There are still no letters from Constantinople, and the cause is the subject of much talk. The Spanish Ambassador discussed with me at great length the subject of Turkish armaments, which he holds for certain will be turned against Germany. The Persian Ambassador has set out to return to his Master. He goes by sea. He has only one ship with him; the merchants who trade to those parts being opposed to him, as they found out that the ships that were to have accompanied him would take to piracy, as I informed you was their firm intention. (*L'Ambasciatore di Persia è partito verso il suo Signore; fa il camino per mare, et ha seco una sol nave, essendosegli opposti i mercanti che trafficano in quella parte per haver presentito che i vasselli che dovevano andar seco si sarebbono volti al corso, come arisai eran rissoluti di fare.**)

Londra, 16th February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

Feb. 19. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

768. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

All these last days they have been in earnest consultation with the Ambassador of the Dutch to settle their accounts with regard to the French debt to the English Crown. The French are endeavouring to saddle all on the Dutch, and Villeroy finally threatened that if they did not come to terms the Queen would disband the regiments she keeps on foot for their service. This is a point that the French are anxious to see settled, as they wish to press on the negotiations for a match.

Paris, 19th February, 1612. [M.V.]

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 22. Collegio, Secreta, Lettere di Rè e Regine, Inghilterra. Venetian Archives.

769. King James I. to the Doge, Marc Antonio Memmo.

Announcing the marriage of the Princess Elizabeth to the Prince Palatine. The Ambassador of Venice was present at the betrothal and will report all details. We have instructed our Ambassador in Venice to return thanks for the honour shown us;

* *See* Cal S.P. Dom. Sept. 1612. Northampton to Rochester. Compromise with Sir Robert Shirley, the Persian Ambassador, about his return to Persia, so as to avoid sending him with English ships and sailors, who so often turn pirates.

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especial thanks for the promptitude with which you arrested the accomplice in the plot against our life.

Westminster, 22nd February, 1613.

[*Latin.*]

Feb. 25. Collegio, Secreta, Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

770. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

As Carneval is over I have come to report to you what is going on in England about the marriage of the Princess to the Prince Palatine. There was no truth in the rumour that the death of the Prince might have broken off the match. I will not go into details, which are perfectly well known to you through your Ambassador, who, I hear, has by his dexterity completely captivated the mind of the King. I am also informed of the noble qualities of his new Secretary, Signor Giulio Muscorno,* who owing to his gracious manners is beloved and esteemed by his Majesty and all the Court.

My previous despatches ordered me to go to Mantua on a mission, but I was prevented by the death of Duke Francesco. I mention this to show your Serenity that my Master keeps up relations with Princes who are far away from him, though near neighbours and friends of yours. I congratulate your Serenity on your happy intervention in the affair of the Cardinal, which threatened to disturb the peace.† Francesco Moresini, senior Councillor, made a formal reply.

The Ambassador then went on to give thanks for favours received and especially that the ladies of his family had been admitted to audience by the Doge. "Moreover, recently, when on a visit to Padua, of which I am a citizen, for the fêtes, I was most honourably treated by the Rectors, as indeed is all our nation. And the other day, when a question arose between some English scholars and those of other nations, the Podestà issued orders as just as they were favourable. I have recently had news from a gentleman who was at Padua University, and who journeyed back to England and all but lost his life in a storm. He now says he will return presently to Padua and bring a number of others with him. I must also highly praise the formation of an Academy whose members are so high-spirited that your Serenity will never lack lances on horseback and swordsmen on foot. Though I have seen many similar displays in various parts of the world, I have never seen one that could equal this. I will take this opportunity to beg you to allow me to speak to you on a matter of high importance." Here he took out of his pocket a paper, and said: "This is addressed to me by the young man who is a prisoner, and who found means of conveying it to me." He then read the

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., Jan. 14, 1613. Giov. Franc. Biondi to Carleton. "Is intimate with Giulio Muscorno, Secretary to Foscarini, the Venetian Ambassador, and wishes Carleton to speak a good word for him privately at Venice." March 30th. Abbot to Carleton. "The Venetian Ambassador's Secretary complained falsely before the Recorder of London that his Master was plotting his assassination."

† The Mantua succession and the question of the possession of Monferrat, which could descend in the female line.

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following passage: "As to my imprisonment I have nothing to say, for I cannot imagine at whose instance it took place. I am told they have written to Rome and are waiting news." The Ambassador went on: "Though I don't think they are such saints in Rome, still I cannot believe they would mix themselves up in such an inhuman and barbarous action as the murder of kings. I beg leave, therefore, to send a dependent of mine, who, under the pretext of conveying him some relief, may find out if he still sticks to his story. I will leave my Secretary outside here to receive whatever orders you may be pleased to issue." Moresini replied that the Cabinet would take the request into consideration; and with that the Ambassador withdrew.

The matter was then discussed and they resolved to take time over it, and that a Secretary should endeavour to get from the English Secretary the actual paper from which the Ambassador read. This was done and a copy taken, and the original returned to the Secretary. The copy runs thus: "My most Illustrious and Excellent Lord, it is fourteen days to-day that I was imprisoned. I was arrested by an officer of the police with constables early in the morning at daybreak, when I was in bed. I was taken away a prisoner on a warrant from the Chiefs of the Ten. The officer told me I was not wanted by the Justice of Venice, and I don't know at whose request I am a prisoner; he would not tell me. All I know is that I am told they have sent to Rome and are waiting information. I am not a bandit, nor have I done any wrong. I can only conjecture that there must have been a spy about me, and that they have caused me to be arrested before I revealed the secret. It must be so. Now your Excellency knows that I spoke the simple truth, and I implore you to help me in some way. I have to pay fifteen lire for my food. Your Excellency will know when the answer which they are expecting from Rome will arrive, and, if I am asked whether I have revealed the secret to anyone, will answer, 'No.' Your Excellency might send someone secretly to whom I could furnish all explanations when the information comes from Rome. He could say he was a friend of mine. I commend myself to your Excellency. I am in the deepest want. With this I bow to you.

In prison, 31st January, 1612.

Your Excellency's humble and obedient servant,
Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano.

As I shall say I have revealed the secret to none, they may let me out; but they are waiting news from Rome."

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 26. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

771. In view of the Ambassador's petition just read, motion is made that the Ambassador may send whenever he likes to speak with Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, the prisoner who was arrested and is detained at his request, as the resolution of the Senate of the 24th of last month declared the prisoner to be held at the disposition of the King of England. Orders in this sense are to be issued by the Cabinet, so that when the Ambassador sends anyone to interrogate the prisoner, none of the jailers are to be present,

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nor even the person in whose custody the prisoner is, in order that our Government may not be in any way mixed up in this affair.

That the Secretary to the English Embassy be informed of this.

Ayes 160.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 12.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 26. Senato, Secreta. Communicate Venetian Archives.

772. That the note just read, addressed to the Chiefs of Ten, anonymously and without date, which is understood to have been written by the person who was arrested at the instance of the English Ambassador, in which he says he has made use of false names in every city that he came to between Naples and Venice, and that he had come to Venice to reveal a great plot, shall be sent to the Cabinet for action.

The oath administered as above.

[*Italian.*]

No date. Senato, Secreta. Communicate. Venetian Archives.

773. For no other purpose have I come to Venice save to lay bare the great secret revealed to me. Had I not been imprisoned on Sunday, on Monday I would have revealed the secret, which is of such importance to your Signory. I have frequently endeavoured to speak to your Lordships and have sent to beg the *Capitano Grande* to come to me; not only that, but I have written to him to beg him to tell your Lordships that I have something of importance to impart. This secret was revealed to me on the 20th of October last, and on the 29th of November I set out at the great risk of my life. However, as soon as I was outside the kingdom of Naples, I changed my name and surname in Rome, in Florence and in Bologna, also in Ferrara and in Venice, as this person, as he told me, has relations also in Venice. Therefore, most noble Lords, I promise to give into your hands and reveal to you that gentleman or Count of the Venetian State, who gave him seventeen persons, and to tell you where he raised soldiers, and where the person who revealed the secret to me was sent in order to carry out the plot. And so I, inspired by God, by the glorious Virgin, and by Saint Mark, am come to reveal the secret to your Lordships; and what I have to say is the pure gospel truth. By order of the Illustrious Lords, Captain Mark came to arrest and imprison me when I was in the lodgings of Iseppo di Rossi.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 26. Consiglio de' Dieci Parti Secrete. Venetian Archives.

774. That the note without name or date sent to the Chiefs, and supposed to be written by the person imprisoned on the request of the English Ambassador, be sent to the Cabinet, for action in conjunction with the Senate.

Ayes 13.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 3.

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1613.
March 1.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

775. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

For many days we have heard nothing in this City but the noise of a crowd, salvoes of artillery, blare of trumpets, nor seen aught but a crush of nobles and gorgeous dresses and all the signs of rejoicing. On Sunday the marriage was celebrated at last after three days of water frolicks and the same by land, both as sumptuous as could be. As Ambassadors were to be invited as witnesses to the marriage there was much ado; but as the Spanish Ambassador was ill, the French Ambassador had no difficulty in taking the lead, nor was it difficult to exclude the Dutch on the lack of competence. The Archduke's Ambassador did all he could to prevent the presence of your Excellencies' Envoy; he wrote two letters to the King, and entered protests couched in intemperate language, but nought availed him. And so by the grace of God your Excellencies were invited and honoured, in the person of him who serves you, at the wedding, at the breakfast, at the banquet, at the masque, at the festivities of the succeeding day, and always when there were other Ambassadors present. Moreover, the King, in the presence of these other Ambassadors, made use of the most flattering expressions as regards your Excellencies, for he employed the expression "King." I will report all further on, along with the kindly expressions adopted by the other Ambassadors while his Majesty was speaking thus and using warm language in condemnation of the Archduke, disapproving the remarks and the conduct of his Ambassador.

On Sunday morning at Court I was conducted to the presence-chamber, and thence, by Lord Burleigh, to a chamber partly at one side and partly above the chapel-royal, where the Ambassador presently arrived, and the French Ambassador passed along with the ladies into a neighbouring chamber. The Ambassador of the States was also there. The King arrived an hour later, along with the Queen, the Palatine, the Princess and the Prince, and mounted a lofty platform reached by two flights of steps, one looking towards the entrance, the other towards the altar, all covered with cloth of gold and silver. The King and Queen took their seats on two great thrones covered with cloth of gold. Near the King stood the Earl of Arundel with the sword. Then came the Palatine and the Prince of Great Britain; on the other side next to the Queen, came the Princess, all three sitting on low stools. At the entrance to the chapel on the right hand side, in the stalls for the clergy of the chapel, were the Countesses, and opposite them the Earls. The rest of the space was occupied by a great number of ladies and gentlemen of title, so gorgeously dressed that the imagination could hardly grasp the spectacle. The King's cloak, breeches and jacket were all sewn with diamonds, a rope and jewel of diamonds also in his hat, of inestimable value. The Queen had in her hair a great number of pear-shaped pearls, the largest and most beautiful there are in the world; and there were diamonds all over her person, so that she was ablaze. The Princess was in gold and silver. Her hair was down; she wore a crown on her head, studied with jewels and pearls:

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she had a necklace of diamonds round her neck. Eight daughters of Earls, dressed in gold and silver, held up on either side her train, which likewise was sewn with jewels of inestimable value; and the same for the Palatine and the Prince. They began then to chaunt the prayers and the Psalms, and a Bishop preached for half an hour, in praise of the Royal family, the wedding, offspring. The Archbishop took the marriage service, in which the Palatine and the Princess promised to take each other for rich or for poor, well or ill, gave them the ring, joined them together and sealed the ceremony with the benediction. They then resumed their seats and some hymns were sung by a chorus of beautiful voices, as was all the rest of the office. The King gave the sign to move; accordingly the French Ambassador and myself who were in the chamber I have described, leaning on a great cushion of gold brocade and looking out of the window, passed into a great chamber, especially made for this wedding, accompanied by the Master of the Ceremonies. Here was prepared a great table and the hangings of the Hall represented the defeat of the Spanish in '88, which may be was a miracle as is expressed in the legend that surrounds it. We were then taken to the King's gallery, and there the King came to us and spoke with us for a while. He said that besides his other acts, the Archduke's Ambassador had, the day before yesterday, sent two letters complaining that it was quite unreasonable to give the precedence to your Excellencies' Ambassador, as the State is a Republic, whereas his Master is a Monarch, and merely as Duke of Burgundy possessed of States larger than your Serenity's; in Rome the Archduke had precedence, but here I had been asked to every ceremony, and he had never received a single favour. As this was a point which affected his Master's dignity he was bound to protest by word and in writing. His Majesty said that the Ambassador of the Archduke was wrong, as his Master was not Sovereign of Flanders, which belonged to the King of Spain, but merely Governor; he added other words expressive of small regard. He then went on in terms of great affection to say that your Excellencies were once Kings of Cyprus; I added "They are still of Candia"; this the King confirmed, saying "Of Crete," as though he meant that one ought to say Crete instead of Candia as being the term better known or more honourable. All this passed in the presence of the other Ambassadors. Looking at the French Ambassador he asked how the claims of the Archduke were regarded in France, and the reply was that they were decided in favour of your Excellencies. The Dutch Ambassador said that in France his Masters also claimed precedence of the Archduke, and if the late King had lived they would have obtained it; and it was not true that the Ambassador of the Archduke had precedence in Rome. I therefore, very well pleased, returned to the Hall along with the other Ambassadors, who congratulated me. Then came the wedded couple and the Prince, and having all washed together they sat down to table, where I was always treated with the honour due to your Excellencies, who could not desire more. In the evening, I was at the Masque, which was very beautiful, with three changes of scene. First of all certain stars danced in the heavens by a most ingenious device; then came a dance of children; finally, of lords and ladies.

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The Masque of the following day was a representation of Virginia, who came to welcome the couple and to promise them great fruit of this wedding. On Tuesday they could not give the third Masque,* which has been put off till to-morrow. The number of lords and ladies, the richness of their robes and liveries, the whole preparations, have turned out successful beyond expectation. The expenses have been so great that, in spite of their being very rich, they will feel it for some time. I put my grooms and coachmen into liveries and cloaks of velvet and gold; and I myself have worn a different dress each day, as is the custom of this Court. I have bought very fine horses, and have given several banquets to the leading gentlemen and ladies, to the complete extinction of the one thousand, five hundred crowns which were voted me by your Excellencies' kindness; nay, I have even spent something over and above. I will continue to entertain others. Everything that is done to honour this wedding is very pleasing to their Majesties, the Prince and all the Court.

London, first of March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 1. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

776. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Monday the 19th of last month I received your Excellencies' despatch of the 25th January, *which contained information about the arrest of Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano, and the Ambassador's request that he should be examined along with the owner of the rooms where he lodged, and the orders to prevent his Majesty from requesting that this examination should take place.* I accordingly asked for audience through the Chamberlain, but as all these days have been devoted to festivities, I could not have it. I will soon be received, and will execute my orders. On Sunday morning while I was in the Gallery with the King, he drew a little away from the rest, and whispered in my ear that your Excellencies *had done well to arrest that fellow and keep him at his disposal*, and he would always reply in like terms. I recognized in his words the excellent way in which his Ambassador had represented the affair, and his continual kindly offices.

During these festivities all the gates of this city have been strictly guarded so as to ensure themselves against all danger. Yesterday I recalled the question of audience to the Chamberlain, who told me to come to the Palace to-morrow evening to see the Masque, and that we could settle about the audience. I am so highly honoured that there is nothing left for me to desire. As these favours are shown to your Excellencies I must report them, so that you may make suitable recognition to his Majesty's Ambassador.

London, the first of March, 1613.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

* The King was tired. The Masque was planned by Bacon. *See* Birch, op. cit. I, 227, 228.

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1613.
March 2.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

777. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The Persian Ambassador, who was in Venice, came to visit me. He said that the King of Spain had agreed to attack the Turk without delay, and it would be as well that your Serenity should come to the same resolve.

Madrid, 2nd March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 2.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

778. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

Don Diego Sarmiento, who had avoided the Embassy to England by obtaining the post of Assistant of Seville, has received fresh orders to leave for Britain, with instructions to display complaisance towards the King and a desire for a good understanding. I am told that the French are far on the way to conclude the match of the second Princess with England, and this would bring to an end the Spanish design to play the King of England by offers of one of the Infantas; so, too, they have dropped the idea of proposing the Princess of England for the King, as her marriage to the Palatine is settled. The Spaniards remark the fact that Count Maurice has received the Garter. Every mark of esteem from great Sovreigns towards the States rouses suspicion.

The ship "Fenice" has sailed from Lisbon for Venice with a cargo of sugar and pepper. They are manning fourteen ships in that port with sixty soldiers on each. Their intention is to send them to the Philippines to stop the fort and the trade which the English have planted there.

Madrid, 2nd March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 2.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

779. Domenico Dominici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

A pirate has put into Leghorn from Ma'amura with a cargo of sugar and other rich merchandize plundered in those seas. They have asked the Duke for safe conduct and say others will arrive. His Highness at once granted it so as to prevent them from making for Villafranca, where the Grand Duke learns to his annoyance that the Duke of Savoy is offering a like asylum to pirates.

Florence, 2nd March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 3.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

780. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The pirate captain who sailed into Villafranca with four ships is named Eston; the most famous of those who to-day are practising piracy. On other occasions he had as many as twenty-five ships fully armed at his disposal, and now besides the four at Villafranca

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he has other ten who are cruising outside the Straits in search of prey. It is said that on board these four he has nine hundred picked soldiers and upwards of four hundred thousand crowns in coin, as well as valuable goods to an amount that seems incredible. He sailed to Villafranca, moved by the report of the complete freedom which his Highness offers to all conditions of men in that port and on the coast of Nice. This freedom is in fact much more extensive than rumour represents, as your Excellencies may see from the enclosed proclamation, which has just been issued. From this it is clear that their design is to make the fortress of Nice and the harbour of Villafranca an asylum and refuge for all scoundrels, offering safety to everyone of whatsoever sect, religion, creed, outlawed for whatsoever crime, for debt or any other imaginable cause. I do not dwell on this, as your Excellencies can yourselves read the original. Persons of some repute tell me that Captain Eston has offered to his Highness to invest large sums in his States, on condition that he shall never be touched at the instance of any Sovreign whatsoever on the ground of plunder made by him. Eston promises in return to pay once for all a tithe of all that he invests, which amounts to a great sum. As yet I have not found out what decision they will take on this point, but the view of his Highness' temperament, which is very unwilling to let slip any opportunity of making money especially in large sums, leads one to believe that the affair will be concluded. (*Il Capitano Corsaro che gionse al porto di Villafranca con quattro vascelli è nominato Esten il più famoso c' hoggidi esserciti il corseggiare. Altre volte hebbe fin 25 vascelli da corso armati del suo proprio, et hora oltre li 4 che sono a Villafranca ne ha altri dieci che sono nei mari di là dal stretto in busca d'altra preda. Sopra questi quattro vascelli, viene affermato, ch'egli habbia 900 forbiti soldati con un valsente in contanti di più di* $\frac{m}{400}$ *scudi, et mercantie pretiose per somma ch'a dirla riesce incredibile. E gionto al porto di Villafranca mosso dalla fama d'un' assoluta franchigia che questa Altezza promette a qualsisia sorte di gente in quel porto e nella spiaggia di Nizza, la quale in effetto è molto maggiore di quello che suona la fama, come potrano le E.E. V.V. vedere dalla qui occlusa stampa, che pur hora è uscita, per la quale assai chiaro si scopre, che qui si disegna far la fortezza di Nizza et luoco di Villafranca un asilo et refuggio di tutti i scelerati assicurandosi ogn' uno di qualsisia seta, religione o credenza, banditi per qualsivoglia delitti, per debiti, et per qualsivoglia altra sorte di cosa imaginabile, nel che non m'estendo, poi che potrano per loro medesime vederne il fonte. Da persona di qualche autorità m'è stato detto che il Capitan Esten habbia fatto proponer a S.A. di voler investire gran somma d'oro sopra i suoi Stati mentre però resti sicuro che mai non possa esser per occasion di prede fatte ad instantia de principi o di chi si sia, molestato, obbligandosi di pagare per ciò per una volta tanto la* x^{ma} *di tutto quello ch'egli impiegherà ch'ascenderà a grossa somma. Quello che sapro ciò si pensi di risolvere per anco non penetro, ma il saper la matura di S.A. inclinatissima a non lasciar fuggire partito ove si tratti di denaro, et massime in quantità considerabile, fa credere che il negotio non sia per passar senza conclusione.*)

Turin, 3rd March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

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Enclosed in preceding Despatch.

781. The CONDITIONS on which NICE and VILLAFRANCA were declared FREE PORTS.

Not for the good of my subjects only, but for the general benefit, we declare the shores of Nice and Villafranca free on the following conditions:—

All mariners and merchants belonging to any nation, none excepted, shall have safeconduct in Nice and Villafranca, the crime of *lesa Majestas* excepted, and non-Catholics to refrain from any act that may cause scandal and from proselytising. All mariners and merchants from beyond the Straits of Gibraltar on the one side, and the Adriatic on the other, shall be free of any duty, provided they unlade and sell their goods or part of them in Nice and Villafranca.

Those who buy goods from beyond Gibraltar and beyond the Adriatic shall also be free of duties.

Our ports on this side of the Alps shall be held to pay dues; for transit the duty is one per cent.

Return goods from our markets to the two ports shall be free of duty.

Goods that are brought from places between the Adriatic and the Straits shall pay the usual dues.

Within three days of having obtained pratique the master of every vessel shall put in his manifest, upon which there shall be no charge made.

Bonded warehouses to be opened in Nice and Villafranca, where they can store their goods on the payment of twelve soldi for every bale of woollens, silk cloth, leather, etc., and same for every 1,000 *lbs.* of iron, lead, steel, tin, brass, copper and so on. On grain they shall pay one soldo on every three *stara.** The merchants shall be free to handle and dispose of their goods in the said warehouses. For anchorage on every vessel from 500 to 1,000 *salme*† they shall pay one crown in gold; from 1,000 to 1,500 *salme*, three crowns; from 1,500 to 3,000 *salme*, five crowns; above 3,000 *salme* eight crowns.

We appoint two Consuls in Nice to hear all commercial cases between merchants, masters, mariners, brokers, etc. In difficult cases these two shall have power to add other three experts to make a court. No appeal in cases of less than 500 crowns of gold.

Each nation may have its own Consuls, to be approved by us. And these Consuls shall be judges of first instance between co-nationals.

Turin, the first day of the year, sixteen hundred and thirteen.

[*Italian.*]

March 8.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

782. ANTONIO FOSCARINI, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Council have asked several gentlemen what help they would give if this kingdom were ever harassed by foreigners, meaning the King of Spain. Many replied that they would keep at their own charges some two, some four and some even more infantry or horse during the whole time they might be needed. They were thanked

* = 83 litres.
† = 147,312 kilos; about a quintal and a half.

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and the offer accepted should the need ever arise, and they say it may be nearer than is expected. They calculate that in this county alone, excluding the City of London, there will be about one thousand foot and one hundred horse without any cost to the King. The same step is being taken in other counties to find out for certain what his Majesty may safely reckon on. Orders have also been given to make certain fire signals which at every ten or fifteen miles can put the whole coast in communication should any considerable number of ships be sighted.*

The three ships intended for Virginia have sailed, others are to be commissioned by those interested in that venture. Hears from Holland that the Dutch East India fleet has sailed. The new ban has been served on the "Possessioners," ordering them without delay to demolish Mühlheim and to prove that they have done so within two months. They, however, are firmly resolved to resist by force of arms and to keep up that strong place. The Emperor came to taking this step in spite of the protests of his Majesty's Ambassador. His Majesty made to me the remarks which you will gather from the enclosed. There is news of peace between Sweden and Denmark. It is thought that this peace and the Turkish armaments will cause the Emperor to think of anything rather than the execution of his bans.

The Elector Palatine is to leave on the 8th of next month, and will take the Princess with him. The four galleons and other royal ships that are to act as escort are being got ready.

The Ambassador of France told me that he has a copy of the peace between Turkey and Persia signed by the Grand Signior; neither the King nor any one else has positive news on the subject.

Orders for reprisals have been issued against Genoese persons and property. Some prisoners have already been captured, and the Council has refused bail or any other concession. A few days ago the ship that had the Persian Ambassador on board was seen in great peril at sea for many hours; and we do not know whether she has continued her voyage or been lost.

London, 8th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 8. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

783. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday I was at the last of the fêtes. I had some conversation with the Earl of Northampton. Baron Hay led me through various rooms full of ladies and gentlemen to the gallery, where I found the King with the leading nobility, the Prince and the newly wedded couple were in the midst of them. His Majesty withdrew a little from the rest, he received me very kindly and said it was only right that your Excellencies, who were so much interested in the welfare of this kingdom, should be present at all the festivities in the person of him who serves you. I bowed and thanked him, and added that out of special regard for his Majesty *Giovanni Vicenzo*

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. 1611-1618, p. 177.

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Gaetano had been arrested and was still at his Majesty's disposition under good guard. The King said he had been informed by his Ambassador in Venice; it was impossible to find out whether Gaetano's story was true, but anyway he would not forget your Excellencies' action. He told me *that Gaetano had informed his Ambassador that the Count of Lemos, Viceroy of Naples, had sent four men to murder him, of whom this Gaetano is one. He complained vigorously of the Spanish intrigues.* His Majesty told me that the Archduke's Ambassador had raised a thousand objections, and made a thousand indecorous remarks; but he was in the wrong; that a distinction must be drawn between friends and enemies. I replied that in this case his Majesty had done what all other sovreigns do. He then went on to remark that the Turk was arming by sea and much more by land, and has already turned his thoughts to Transylvania. He has no certain news of the peace with Persia. When the Nuncio of Spain urged the Emperor to issue a more rigid ban, they were told that he must act with caution; as there were signs of war with the Turk the Emperor could not afford to annoy the confederated Princes, of whose support he had urgent need. He told me that the peace between Sweden and Denmark was true. He thought it important and dwelt on the fact that this peace and the Turkish armaments will compel Spain and the Emperor to attend to their own business. The Queen joined us and we walked towards the great hall, where they danced the ballet.

London, 8th March, 1613.

[*Italian; this part in italics deciphered.*]

March 10. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

784. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marchese Villa has returned to Court and is getting ready for his mission to England. He will be accompanied by Gabaleone, and besides conveying condolences for the death of the Prince and congratulations for the marriage of the Princess, he will reopen the question of marriage. There is a general idea that the proposal is not hopeless, in view of the fact that the English must find a wife for the sole Prince left, and that there are no other marriageable Princesses of higher rank.

The English corsair is in bed, wounded by a harquebuss, which put him in danger of his life. He has already bought a palace in Villafranca and is living there. He has secured warehouses for his goods; these are so valuable that I am assured from various quarters that, what with jewels and coin, the total amounts to upwards of two millions of gold. These details were confirmed to me by the English Agent here resident, who is opposed to the ideas of the pirate on the ground that he is a rebel, odious to his Majesty. I don't know yet what decision will be taken about the safeconduct he desires to get, although it is likely that his offer to pay ten per cent. and to pledge himself to give up piracy will have great weight in helping him to his end. They are waiting nine other vessels; one, in addition to the original four, has already arrived. There are those who suggest that his Highness may use these vessels for some purpose

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of his own, but of this I have no certainty. As soon as Eston is cured he is expected here; and I may have a better opportunity to find out if they negotiate with him. He has resolved to give up piracy partly because of the great booty he has amassed, which he is unwilling to risk, and also because he has become hateful, not only to the Spanish, but also to the English and the Dutch, because without exception of person he plundered all alike. Last year there were thirty English and Dutch ships chartered to fight him, but they never fell in with him. (*Il Corsaro Inglese s'attrova nel letto ferito d'archibuggiata, che l'ha tenuto in pericolo della vita. Ha già comprato in Villafranca un palazzo per se ov'egli alloggia, havendosi fatto accommodar magazeni per le sue mercantie, quali sono così preciose e di tanto valore che mi viene affermato da più d'una parte con le gioie et contanti ascendano a più di due millioni di oro. Et questo particolare m'è stato confirmato dall'agente d'Inghilterra che qui resiede, il quale però, per quanto ho potuto scoprire non è favorevole a pensieri del Corsaro anzi contrario come persona ribelle del Rè et odiosissimo da sua Maestà. Non si sa anco qual risolutione sia per prendresi sopra di lui per il salvacondotto che desidera, se bene l'offerta di pagar dieci per cento con l'assoluta promessa appresso d'astenersi dal corseggiare si crede che haverà gran forza per farli conseguir quanto pretende. S'aspettano altri nove vascelli; essendori ultimamente gionto uno presso li quattro primi. Et vi è chi discorre che S.A. possa valersi di questi vascelli con armarli a qualche fine, di che per ciò non ho quella siccurezza ch'io vorrei per poterlo scriver più fondatamente. Subito ch'egli sia risanato si attende qui, et forse con miglior occasione potrò scoprire se si tratterà cosa concernente l'interesse di cotesta Serenissima Republica. Egli si è resoluto di ritirarsi così per le grosse prede che ha già fatte, et che non vorebbe adventurare, come anco per essersi hormai reso odioso non solo a Spagnoli ma agli Inglesi et Olandesi ancora, poiche senza riguardo o eccettione di persona, spogliava tutti egualmente; et l'anno passato furono contra di lui armati 30 vascelli da Olandesi et Inglesi, per batterlo, a quali però non successe d'incontrarlo.*)

Turin, 10th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 14. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

785. Commission to Paulo Thiepolo, elected Captain of the Great Galleys.

In order that you may know how to deal with English ships, we enclose copy of circular to all our captains, dated 24th September, 1605.

[*Italian.*]

March 15. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives

786. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday I was with the Archbishop of Canterbury. He told me that the King had informed him of the readiness with which

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your Excellencies *had arrested Gaetano*, showed complete satisfaction and was much obliged. The King had charged him to examine the case along with two other members of the Council, but the Viscount Rochester instead of bringing the right papers had brought others by mistake, hence a delay. All the same his Majesty had given orders to the Secretary at the Embassy in Venice for his guidance. The matter will be discussed and steps taken to secure the King's life. It is impossible to know whether *the revelations made by Gaetano* are true, though it is very likely, and the King thinks they are. I pointed out that in similar cases much depended *on promptness and secrecy and* that it would be well if *Gaetano* were as quickly as possible in the *hands of the Ambassador and the King*, who then could act as he thought best with the knowledge of only one or two of the Council. I said this so as to relieve your Excellencies of any further dealing *with the examination of the man* and in execution of your orders. The Archbishop approved my suggestion, and said he would speak about it. He then went on to tell me in confidence that six months ago the Council was warned that two persons were going to arrive here to attempt the King's life; one of these had a wound on his hand; shortly after there did arrive a man with this and other marks, and so he was imprisoned. He admitted that he was a Milanese who had served for long as a soldier in Flanders; he knew no one in this country, nor had he any business; but he cloaked his evil designs under the plea that he had come to see the country. Nevertheless the King's clemency had caused him to be discharged after a few days, and he left the kingdom. The Archbishop seemed inclined to believe that this fellow might *be one of the four sent by the Viceroy of Naples*. He concluded that he had always considered this Milanese, who called himself Antonio di Paton, had come here with the worst intention and on an evil errand. He told me that the King of Spain has one thousand two hundred Irishmen in his service, and careful observation had shown that out of these five or six hundred had returned to Ireland by ones and twos and threes at a time. This increased their suspicions about an attempt on Ireland. These returned Irish are dependents of the Spanish, by whom they are benefited, and are ready for any evil job, not so much thanks to their numbers but thanks to their relations in that island and because they had gained experience in the wars. Orders have been issued here and in Scotland to despatch at a moment's notice, if needed, seven or eight thousand infantry, also some horse to Ireland. He told me that the Marquis de Flores had done them a bad turn in Spain and here there reigns a general hatred of that country. He ended by saying that beacons had been prepared all round the coast to be lighted should an armada appear, and orders given that all the musters are to be filled up by the first of next month, both foot and horse, the men to be armed and ready to march. Enclosed is the Order of Council sent to all the counties.

London, 15th March, 1613.

[*Italian, the part in italics deciphered.*]

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1613.
Enclosed in preceding Despatch.

787. After Greetings.

The peace we have enjoyed since the accession of his Majesty has bred such security that there is now a great lack of arms and munitions of war such as should be found in a well-governed country. Every man is now to provide himself with arms; the times require this and the growing audacity of the recusants. The King has therefore ordered a general muster of arms throughout this kingdom. Such order is to be carried out voluntarily for the public good. You are required to hold this muster and to enrol both disciplined and undisciplined, and to see that the companies are filled up. You are to admit no exemptions. All clergy to appear, so too the Justices. The muster is to be made in various places in the county, so that no one may have a long way to go. All musters to be held on the same day, so as to avoid the men lending their arms and horses. You are to look to the supply of powder, balls, gun carriages, tow. The ammunition to be stored in the capital of the country. You are to prepare beacons.*

The Court at Whitehall, 10th February, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 15.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

788. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Two days after the despatch of my last the King received letters from Sir Robert Anstruther, his Lieger in Denmark, with confirmation and particulars of the peace between Denmark and Sweden. This peace is an important event; the King proposes to unite both Denmark and Sweden in the confederation of Princes. Ambassadors from both are expected. M. de Plessen has left for France with letters from the Palatine for the King, the Queen, and the Duke de Bouillon. The French Ambassador has had long secret conferences with the Councillors of the Palatine. This makes the Spanish Ambassador suspicious. The Elector of Cologne, the Duke of Bavaria and the Bishop of Bamberg have asked the Queen of France whether she would enter the league of the Pope, the Emperor and Spain. She said she would not, but no more would she join the Protestant federation. This I have from the lips of the Archbishop.

London, 15th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding Despatch.

789. Sir Robert Anstruther to the Council.

The Commissioners of Sweden and Denmark had a meeting on the 29th November, at which Vormeston† and I were present. Difficulties arose. The Swedish Commissioners insisting on restitution, which the Danish refused. We feared that our mission would fail. However, both sides showed satisfaction at our

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom., 1611-1618, *p.* 169.

† *See* Dumont "Corps Diplomatique," v. par 2, p. 642. The Commissioners for James were "Robertum Ambstruter de Anstrutter, ab interioris cubiculis et Jacobum Spencerum Equitem."

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presence and that His Majesty should have been at the pains to send his Ministers for such a purpose. We, however, by the grace of God, so acted that peace was concluded, a peace for which the King of England alone has all the credit. Both Kings will send to thank him. The terms are, that the King of Denmark shall restore to Sweden all the strong places captured; the King and Crown of Sweden shall pay to Denmark ten tons of gold in six years' time; each ton to contain one hundred thousand dollars; the King of Denmark shall keep the castle of Helsingborg until extinction of the debt; if the debt be not paid within the stipulated time, Helsingborg shall remain to Denmark for ever; the King of Sweden renounces all claims his father, Charles, may have held to the northern part of Norway; that the question of the three crowns in the arms be not raised; both Kings and their successor may bear them. Calmar, Öland and all that belongs to them shall be restored to Sweden on the 6th of April; all ships and guns captured at sea or on land shall remain to Denmark and the treaty of Stettin shall be renewed; the Danes shall be free to trade in Sweden as though they were nationals, the Swedes in Denmark on the same footing. There are many other points not yet subscribed by both parties, but they are of small moment and will not upset the peace. Though a cessation of arms has not been declared I can assure you that since August 20th there has been no fighting. Now that peace is established I trust to so work with the King of Denmark that the dues at Elsinore may be reduced to their ancient wonted proportions. From Knerod, on the borders of Denmark and Sweden.

Jan. 18th, 1613.

Robert Anstruther.

[*Italian.*]

March 16. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

790. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

In obedience to my orders I have endeavoured to find out the nature of the league which is said to be concluded between the Turk and the Dutch. For that purpose I went to the English Ambassador. He told me he had recent letters from Constantinople informing him that the Dutch had not negotiated any league there, but merely commercial capitulations and the establishment of their consuls in Turkish ports.

Madrid, 16th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 16. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

791. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The affair of Captain Eston is in such a position that, as I am informed, he has let himself be persuaded to unlade all his belongings, even to the sails and rigging of his ships, which he has placed in the arsenal at Nice; so that it is no longer in his power to move should he wish to; every puff of south-west wind that rose against him would be a master stroke for the Duke, who without racking

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his brains as he does now to find money, would thus have provided sufficiently and abundantly for his needs. Eston is expected at Court in two days and there are many who prophesy for him a bad end to his resolve to come to these States. He has nothing else in his favour save the edict of full security which was issued to establish the freedom of the port of Villafranca; though even here they would find a way out as Eston put in there before the publication of the Edict. Moreover this sudden increase would bring more advantage at a single stroke to the port of Villafranca than could accrue in many years by any other means. It is true that his Highness is so hard up that, to state the fact, he is unable to send out his Ambassadors for no other reason than for lack of money. The cause of this poverty is the fact that the Duke keeps on foot a large force of foreign troops which cost him three hundred thousand crowns a year. And yet though there is not a sou in the Treasury these troops have been engaged for another three months, no one knows why. (*Il negotio del Capitan Corsaro è in tale stato, per quanto mi viene affirmato, che egli si ha lasciato consigliare a metter a terra tutto il suo sin le vele, et armizzi de suoi proprii vascelli nell'arsenale di Nizza, talche non è più in suo potere il levarsi di quà quando bene volesse; ond'ogni poca di garbinela che le fosse levato contra, sarebbe un colpo mæstro per S.A. che senza lambicarsi il cervello come hora fa per ritrovar denari havrebbe proveduto sufficientemente e largamente al suo bisogno; egli si attende fra due giorni in Corte, et molti sono che vano pronosticandole un esito poco felice alla risolutione che ha preso di venire in questi Stati; nè altra cosa vi è che per lui sia favorevole, senon l'editto d'ampla sicurtà uscito in stampa per la franchigia del porto di Villafranca, al che non restano per ciò di ritrovar la risolutione, poichè il corsaro capitò prima ch' uscisse il bando; oltre che per un avanzo cosi grande quando ben il porto di Villafranca non facesse altre facende apporterà tanto giovamento in un sol colpo quanto potrebbe apportarne in molti anni per altra via; et in vero, ch'il bisogno di S.A. di denari è tale ch'a dirla com'è non può spedire gl'ambasciatori destinati, non per altro che per il mancamento sudetto, la causa di cosi fatta stretezza nasce dal tenersi in piedi un numero di militie forastiere di qualche consideratione, che apportono un dispendio annuo di più di* $\frac{m}{300}$ *scudi, e pur nonostante che non vi sia, si puo dire un quattrino, sono state confirmate gia 4 giorni per altri tre mesi ancora, senza vedersi a che fine.*)

Turin, 16th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 18. Consiglio de' Dieci. Parti Secrete. Venetian Archives.

792. After the administration of the oath. That to please the English Ambassador grace be extended to Paolo Emilio Fumanelli, of Verona, condemned to fifteen years' imprisonment in one of the strong prisons of the Chiefs of the Ten. The sentence was passed by the Rectors of Verona as delegates of this Council, on December 9th, 1610. Fumanelli may now be allowed to finish his sentence in the fortress of Palma.

Ayes	4.	Second vote	4.	
Noes	1.		3.	Suspended.
Neutrals	4.		2.	

[*Italian.*]

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March 19.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

793. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Ambassador informed their Majesties of the marriage of his Master's daughter to the Palatine, and that both would shortly cross over to Holland on their way to Heidelberg. The Ambassador then went to Villeroy, and showed him letters from the King in which his Majesty excused himself for not having as yet been able to pay attention to Villeroy's suggestions of a match, on account of the wedding festivities; he said that whenever he was set at liberty by the departure of the Palatine, he would very gladly take the matter up. Meantime the Ambassador begged Villeroy to wind up the question of the credit with the Dutch, in order to remove this obstacle. Villeroy replied that they were even then engaged in examining the question, and hoped to settle it in a short time; the Ambassador then dwelt on the danger which threatened from Cleves, and his Master's desire to settle the matter. He said that the Crown of France should do the same.

A few days ago there arrived a gentleman sent from Munich by the Princes of the Catholic League to tell their Majesties of the renewal of that alliance in opposition to the Princes of the Union. He magnified the power of the League, which, he said, would be supported by Spain, and endeavoured to find out French views on the subject, and to open the way to some engagement in favour of the League. A very circumscribed answer was given him, committing the French to nothing, one way or the other; only that their Majesties desired peace in Germany and would do all they could to secure it. It is thought, however, that they will stand by their agreement with England to oppose the election of Albert as King of the Romans, because the King of Spain intends by that means to bring the Imperial Crown to one of his children. De Praslin, who was to have gone to England on a mission of condolence for the death of the Prince of Wales, would have touched on that topic; but it seems that mission will be abandoned; for as the King of England did not send to condole on the death of Orleans it would not comport with their dignity to do more than he had done.

There are two Ambassadors here from England; one from the Palatine to announce his marriage; the other is the Wirtemberg Ambassador on his way home.

Paris, 19th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 19.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

794. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke of Rohan and the Huguenots are so cast down by the death of the Prince of Wales and keep so quiet that it is evident that they counted greatly on him.

Paris, 19th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

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1613.
March 21.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

795. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

A Councillor of the Palatine told me that his Master had begged the King to instruct his Ambassador at Constantinople to tell the Grand Vizir, the Mufti and whoever he thinks right, that the Princes of the Union intend to live in peace with the Sultan as long as he is fighting outside Germany, where alone they hold sway and have interests. When the Palatine is on his way through Holland he will induce the States to write in the same sense to their Ambassador at the Porte. Transylvania is of no interest to them and it is not fair that the Emperor, for his own private interests, should disturb them all. He suggested that the Venetian Ambassador at the Porte might, if occasion offered, explain to the leading Pashas the views of the Princes of the Union. I did what I could to find out whether the King has written; it seems that he has. On Saturday I was with Count Henry, and endeavoured to find out whether there were any negotiations on foot between the States and the Turk. He told me that the Ambassador had pointed out what the United Provinces might do, and had made offers; that it suited them that his Catholic Majesty should believe that there was an alliance. The Spanish Ambassador, who lives in suspicion as to this understanding, told me he wished to speak to Glover, who is in his confidence, and has just returned from Constantinople. The Ambassador is doing all he can to find out the truth. The French Ambassador told me that a copy of the Capitulations are in the King's hands; they contain provision for freedom of trade and friendly relations; if the States were at war with Spain then the Turk is to come to their assistance with thirty ships of war, but in no other circumstances nor against any other power, for it does not suit the Dutch to render themselves odious to the rest of mankind, nor to break the truce as long as the King of France is still a child and a minor. He said he was going to write to M. de Refuges to send him a copy from Holland, as I too have frequently done. On his Majesty's return I will use all diligence to get a copy and I will send it to your Excellencies, though I presume you have had one long ago.

London, 21st March, 1613.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

March 22.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

796. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Secretary of Savoy, on Monday week, received letters from Turin forwarded by M. de Jacob from Paris. The following day he went to Court, which is three days' journey from here, and had two audiences. He showed to the King a petition from the city of Vercelli on the subject of contribution to the Episcopal revenue, and the order of the Curator of the Patrimony in favour of the petitioners in spite of the Nuncio's *Monitorium* to the contrary. The King paid the closest attention and particularly approved the arguments of the Curator, insisting that any papal excommunication on those grounds was really invalid and unjust. He thoroughly agreed with the position taken by the Duke and made large promises. The Secretary also informed his Majesty that the Marchese Villa would

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soon be here, hinting clearly at negotiations for a match. The Secretary received a general answer in very satisfactory terms. He sent off the messenger again to M. de Jacob. He also handed letters to Viscount Rochester and has visited Lady Jane Drummond, the Queen's Lady, on express orders of the Duke. I saw a letter in which it was said that the Ambassador would bring gifts and means to reward those who assist him. The Spanish Ambassador has received despatches assuring him of the coming of his successor and eight thousand crowns to assist his expenses.

Among the many compositions printed on the occasion of the late festivities are some latin verses attacking Spain. The ideas are vigorous and expressed without reserve; in brief but clear phrases they touch on the negotiations for the Prince's marriage, and say they were a fraud. "Let them," it says, "prepare an armada against this kingdom; let them spread their wiles; but remember the Armada of '88." The gunpowder plot is laid to the door of Spain. The work is sold freely and publicly.

The day before yesterday the Admiral left to review the royal ships, and to see that the four galleons destined to escort the Princess to Holland are ready.

The Dutch Ambassador was at Newmarket last week. The King was there.

The meeting at Erfurt has broken up, and the Princes of the Union have told the Emperor that in the question of Transylvania they will deal by him as he deals by them on the points that they desire to be settled.

London, 22nd March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 24. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

797. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marchese Villa has not yet been despatched to England, so his mission will fall about Easter. He will be accompanied by a large suite of gentlemen and nobles, among whom is the son of the Count della Bastia, who, they say, is to remain in England as Lieger if the negotiations for the match take a favourable turn, as they hope here in spite of the contrary news which comes from France to the effect that the match between Madame Christine and the little English Prince is virtually concluded.

Turin, 24th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 24. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

798. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The English Corsair (Eston) arrived in Turin two hours ago. He has only four persons with him. He is a handsome man of about forty; and as the idea of his riches grows day by day, so hour by hour grows the prophecy of an unhappy end for him. (*Il Corsaro due hore fa è gionto in Turino in compagnia di soli*

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quattro; è persona di bell' aspetto d'età di circa 40 anni; et come di giorno in giorno cresce il concetto delle sue richezze, cosi tanto maggiore d'hora in hora si fà il pronostico del suo infelice fine.)

Turin, 24th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 27. Collegio, Lettere, Venetian Archives.

799. To the Palatine congratulating him on his alliance with the King of England.

[*Italian.*]

March 28. Senato, Mar. Venetian Archives.

800. That three hundred and two crowns, lire three, of lire seven to each crown, be given to the representatives of our faithful notary in ordinary in our Ducal Chancery, Giulio Muscorno, for the cost of his journey to England; also one hundred ducats of lire 6 soldi 4 the ducat for his expenses in preparing for the journey, none of which was paid to him before his departure, as appears from the Ambassador's despatches of Feb. 8th just read.

Ayes 188.
Noes 7.
Neutrals 15.

[*Italian.*]

March 29. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

801. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Secretary of Spain went to Court with a letter from the Ambassador to the King. He begs the King to read the little book which accompanies the letter and then he will see things that will move him to burn it and punish the author. If his Majesty did not act thus, the world would think he was no friend, but rather despised the King of Spain. The book contained the verses I wrote about this day week. The King's answer was that he was not at all surprised at the complaint; for the very day the book was published it fell into his hands by chance, and he lighted on the verses attacking Spain. He at once sent for the High Chancellor, who is also Chancellor of Oxford, and told him to remove the verses and to punish the author. He promised to renew the order and to prove that he will not endure that his peers should be insulted. The letter was written in French and addressed "A Monsieur Don Alonso de Velasco, Ambassador of Spain." The Secretary took away with him the instructions to the Chancellor, which the Spanish Ambassador forwarded, but though the book has been prohibited it is still sold freely, nor is any alteration made in it. The Ambassador told me that when he saw the King he would lodge a complaint, as he could not pass over so grave an offence so publicly given. I have received despatches informing me about the Uscocks and the Emperor's promise to remove them from Segna. As to whether there is any league between the Dutch and the Turk, on the King's return I will endeavour to find out from him himself. I am generally assured that the Dutch Ambassador

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at the beginning of his negotiations, finding all the other Ambassadors against him, in order to make headway, did make vigorous offers of aid against Spain, but not against any other power. The Spanish Ambassador has not yet spoken to Glover. I think I can assure your Excellencies that the Dutch have never promised aid against any but Spain.

London, 29th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 29. Original Despatch Venetian Archives.

802. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The latest letters from the Ambassador in Constantinople are of the 4th of January. The despatches for the King contain the Sultan's orders in Adrianople, to which place he was induced to go with nearly all his harem, by Nasuf Pasha. The letters to the Levant Company contain Nasuf's orders to the Ambassador to pay indemnity for plunder committed by Middleton,* an Englishman, in the Red Sea. He is in command of some buccaneers. There is other news in letters of the 29th February, via Naples, but it is not trusted. The English Ambassador in Venice sends information as to the election of a Governor at Cattaro and the resolve to send him armed. But the King, and everyone else here, is convinced that Turkish arms are intended for Transylvania. The Duke of Nevers has asked leave of the Queen of France to go there with a large following of gentlemen. The Queen has not yet given her consent. The Federate Princes stand firm in their resolve to refuse all support to the Emperor until he has signed the demands they present to him. They have settled that the Elector of Brandenburg is to enter the Imperial Diet and he will do so in person. The point about the Palatine is not settled. The Spanish Ambassador tells me that in the Diet they will discuss whether Transylvania is to be defended, as though it were an open question. He thinks the Turk will take it, and also push far into Germany. The King has instructed his Ambassador at the Imperial Court to go to Brandenburg to settle some points which will be raised in the Diet. He will then return to the Emperor, from whom he has not yet had an answer to his vigorous remonstrances as regards the Palatinate, Aix-la-Chapelle, and Mühlheim. The dispatch of new Commissioners to Aix commonly produces a bad effect. In Holland Count Maurice is arming.

London, 29th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 29. Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

803. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Monday the Palatine sent to visit the Spanish Ambassador, then this Embassy, and last the Flemish Ambassador. The

* Captain David Middleton. In April of 1614 he received a commission to use martial law while in command of a ship belonging to the East India Company.

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Spanish Ambassador could not receive him owing to indisposition. The Palatine came to this house with a great train of gentlemen. I received him as becomes a King's son-in-law. After compliments, he remarked that the House of Austria showed a great desire for war with the Turk; that they might find that the Sultan wanted nothing else than to put a Duke in Transylvania—he used the expression "Duke"—and that Bathori had had recourse first of all to the Sultan. I asked if he thought the war would be ended supposing the Emperor yielded to this demand. The Palatine's governor said "Yes." I gathered quite clearly that the Federated Princes loathe the war with the Turk, for if it be carried on by Austrian arms they are filled with suspicion; if by their own, it is very costly. It is nearly certain that in the Diet they will introduce delays and perhaps will persuade the Emperor to allow the Turk to place Bathori on the throne of Transylvania. Since the House of Austria held the Empire it has grown poor owing to the burden entailed. The Palatine goes to-day to see the King, and on the 8th of next month he will set out with the Princess. I asked if he would be back here before winter, and he said he thought not, and added that he hoped to see me at Heidelberg when I left England. He declared he desired to be closely united to your Excellencies as was the King, and if you desired anything that would bring him closer he was always ready. He showed that he appreciated the fact that you had sent an Ambassador to his father. He praised Tomaso Contarini, and then took his leave. He spent a very short time at the Flemish Embassy, and this proceeding, which was taken on purpose, confirms your Excellencies' eminence as the equal of Crowned Heads.

London, 29th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

March 30. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

804. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Duke left Turin on Sunday at mid-day for Vercelli to meet the Infanta dowager. A few miles out he was overtaken by a messenger from the Prince. He returned to Turin next day. Yesterday he again set out for Vercelli. Yesterday morning Gabaleone left by post for Milan on the plea of buying some jewels to make a present to the Queen of England. The Corsair (Eston) is on the point of acquiring Marquisates and other fiefs. He follows the Court and the Duke wherever they go, and in appearance so far he is treated with esteem. There are some who are of opinion that his riches are not so great as reported; this I have from the lips of one who has gone very far into his affairs. (*Il Corsaro sta in procinto di attendere ad acquisti di Marchesati, e altri feudi; seguita la Corte et il Sig^r. Duca ov'unque egli si attrova, ch' in apparenza sin a quest hora mostra di farne stima. Alcuni sono entrati in opinione che le sue richezze non siano tante quante si và publicando et viene di bocca di persona ch' ha penetrato assai a dentro nelle cose sue.*)

Turin, 30th March, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

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1613.
April 6.
Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

805. That the English Ambassador be invited to attend in the Cabinet and to hear what follows :—

We have always considered the King of Great Britain's affairs as our own. We offer our hearty congratulations on the marriage of the Princess to the Palatine. We return thanks for the continued favours shown to our Ambassador. As regards Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano you have only to dispose of him as may be most pleasing to his Majesty.

Ayes 123.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 42.

[*Italian.*]

April 6.
Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives

806. To the King of Great Britain.

Congratulations on the marriage of the Princess with the Elector Palatine.

Ayes 123.
Noes 5.
Neutrals 42.

[*Italian.*]

April 6.
Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

807. To the Ambassador in England.

Instructions to present letters of congratulation, and to express our satisfaction at the marriage of the Princess and the Palatine.

Ayes 123.
Noes 6.
Neutrals 42.

[*Italian.*]

April 6.
Original Despatch. Venetian Archives.

808. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

The Persian Ambassador has gone to Lisbon to embark; and the Envoy destined here for Persia will wait till September.

The Jesuit Fathers are endeavouring here to open a seminary for young English Catholics. The English Ambassador is opposed, on the ground that they would end by going to England to disturb the Kingdom, owing to their vow to preach the faith. The Ambassador has succeeded in preventing the design from going ahead.

Madrid, 6th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 6.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

809. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marchese Villa left for England two days ago. He had a large suite. I have not been able to find out the precise nature of his instructions, but it would seem that beyond condolences and

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congratulations for the death of the Prince and the marriage of the Princess, he has orders to resume negotiations for a match between one of these Princesses and the Prince. Gabaleone is also to go to England in a few days on the same errand. The Duke is sending as a present to the King a splendid tiger and lion which he bought from some Spaniards; they are the same as were in Venice about a year ago, and the majority of your Excellencies must have seen them. For the Queen the Marchese is taking a casket of rock-crystal, jewelled and filled with curious nicknacks fit for a lady. The rumour grows that the King of Spain would like to marry one of these Princesses. It gains little credence, however, as the Spanish game is well known to be merely to prevent the English match. For when the match with the Prince of Wales was on foot the Spaniards proposed that both Princesses of Savoy should be sent to Spain, and great hopes were held out, but on the Prince's death the suggestion was allowed to drop.

The English Corsair is in Vercelli with his Highness. There are many who affirm that he is disposed to surrender all his property to the Duke, on condition that the Duke should give him for life four thousand ducats a year in fiefs, and in case of his having children, two thousand to his descendants. This leads people to believe that as he is content to take so little in comparison with his reputed wealth, this may well be far inferior to what was rumoured, or that he finds himself in such a position that he is obliged to accept any terms. No more dangerous resolve could have been taken than this, if it be true; for it is believed that it will be the means of depriving him not merely of his goods but of his life. He has already become aware of his error and regrets that he ever came here; but as it is out of his power to remedy it he is obliged to adapt himself to necessity and the course of events.

Turin, 6th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 9. Collegio. Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

810. The Ambassador of England came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

Has come to wish them a happy Easter and to carry out some instructions contained in a letter from his Majesty, which he begs may be read. He handed in the letter of this tenour:—"James, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc., to the most Serene Prince and Lord Marc' Antonio Memmo, Doge of Venice, etc., our dearest friend, greeting."

Announces the marriage of the Princess to the Palatine. The Venetian Ambassador who was present throughout the ceremonies will have reported details. Has instructed his Ambassador in Venice to return thanks for the honour shown by the Republic to the King, and for proofs of affection, especially for the promptness with which the Republic arrested that scoundrel who, aware of a plot against the King's life, voluntarily revealed it to the Ambassador. The Ambassador is to return thanks and to explain what ought to be done.

Westminster, 22nd February, 1613.

"Your friend James, King."

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The Ambassador then went on to say that his Majesty considered it his duty, in view of their friendly relations, to communicate the marriage of his daughter. The King is so satisfied with the fine qualities of the Elector Palatine that he seems to have recovered a son in place of the one he has lost. The Venetian Ambassador was present in great state, to his Majesty's pleasure, who paid him the honour due to the representative of a great Prince. Although his Majesty is sure that the Venetian Ambassador will have reported fully, yet, as a sign of greater esteem, he has ordered his own Ambassador to make this statement.

The Ambassador is further instructed to return thanks for the promptness with which that young man Giovanni Vicenzo Gaetano was arrested; this is a pleasing proof of the attention paid to his Majesty's wishes. Seeing that Gaetano was a voluntary agent in such important actions, the Ambassador is especially instructed to relieve the Republic of all charges which have been or may be made on account of the prisoner, and to beg that he may still be retained in custody until certain investigations necessary for full light on the matter have been carried out, and until his accomplices have been discovered, as will certainly happen, seeing that the necessary orders have been issued.

The Ambassador then announced the peace between Sweden and Denmark. The King acted as mediator. Both parties are about to send Embassies. He excuses his delay on the ground that one of his Secretaries who brought the despatches was stayed by bad weather.

Ser Lunardo Mocenigo, senior Councillor in the absence of the Doge, replied that they had heard the Ambassador's remarks with great pleasure. As to Gaetano, the Cabinet will consult on the Ambassador's request.

The Ambassador said that just as he had sought but now the arrest of one man, so he now begged for the liberation of another, Cumanelli, a gentleman of Verona, on whose behalf he had petitioned on other occasions. He pleads the ruin of the man's wife, family, estate, which, he is sure, was not intended. What the man has suffered will serve as a punishment for his errors. The Ambassador had received a favourable reply on other occasions. Ser Lunardo Mocenigo replied that sometimes the severity of the law prevented them from gratifying the Ambassador as they desired. His request would be forwarded to the right quarter.

[*Italian.*]

April 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

811. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French, who sowed suspicion among the German Protestants when the Emperor was intending to attack the Turk, still say that it would be a serious mischief if the Austrians were to throw a large number of troops into Germany on that pretext; for it would be easy for them to attack others. France is urging the Germans not to take part in the war, but to leave the whole burden to the House of Austria. They urge that if the troops of Austria are sufficient to defend themselves that will do, but if the Turk gets the upper hand, then they can

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come to the assistance of Austria. I know that such advice has fallen from the lips of Villeroy when talking to the Envoys of Sovreigns. He added that assistance should be given to them, but not in money, and that the commanders should be appointed by the Princes; thus the Emperor would be strong against the Turk, but weak and divided should he attempt anything else. The Palatine had letters from de Plessen on this subject.

The King has despatches from his Ambassador in France telling him of the Queen's answer to the Emperor on the subject of aid. She said she would gladly let troops pass, but he need not hope for money.

The Dutch Ambassador visited me on the day I sent my last despatch. He spoke of the rumour that the States had made a confederation with the Turk; he assured me on oath that he had seen the whole negotiations at the Porte and there was nothing of the sort. The United Provinces could not enter into a confederation without the assent of all the cities under their jurisdiction, and so such a treaty must become public; neither Barneveldt nor the other leaders would dare to conclude such a treaty. The rumour was set about by their enemies. He discoursed to me on the way in which the Dutch had come to be known to the Turk in the time of Queen Elizabeth; when the Queen handed over to the States a number of Dutch slaves who had been liberated by her Ambassador. He said that possibly the Ambassador might have said something by word of mouth, but that in writing there was nothing mentioned but trade and good will.

London, 11th April, 1613.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

April 11. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

812. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Dutch Consul in Tunis writes on the 28th January that the orders of the Porte for the liberation of slaves do not fully obtain their effect. At first only thirteen old men were set free; but on his vigorous and repeated demands, fifteen rather better men were liberated; but thirty still remain of the strongest and best. It is to be feared that as those pirates are debarred from making slaves for the future, they will act cruelly towards the men. The French Agent sent to liberate the French slaves only succeeded in securing eighty-four. He reports that in Tunis there are at present only three great ships and one *tartana*; so they will make every effort to fit out some more. There are despatches from the Ambassador in Constantinople; as soon as they are translated I shall have a copy to send. They discuss the remedies for these difficulties.

There are four Agents of the Dutch come here to discuss the union of forces in the East Indies against Spain. They have sent six more ships, so the Dutch total is eighty. There are infantry aboard and they have sent a Governor to reside there in their name. Count Henry tells me that among these ships are some of one thousand two hundred tons, which is the largest tonnage known. He said the outlay had been great and the returns small as yet, but the Spanish will soon be expelled and then the profits will grow.

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When the Spanish Ambassador sent his Secretary to complain of the publications offensive to his Master, he also said that the King desired to come to a good understanding with England, and begged the King not to take alarm at the Armada which was being prepared, but to trust as true what was now told him. The English Ambassador in Spain writes that the Duke of Lerma said the same to him, and to prove his goodwill he had given certain orders that did not please the Jesuits in Spain. All the same the muster continues throughout England.

Late yesterday Count Henry set out for Holland, where preparations are to be made to receive the Princess and the Elector, who are to leave in a few days. The four *bertons* are fitted out, and everything is ready. On Wednesday in Holy Week they held a joust. The French Ambassador and I knew that we were to be invited, and we thought we could hardly be present on such a day without scandal. We therefore let our scruples be known, and so avoided the necessity of a direct refusal. The Spanish Ambassador was then invited, and excused himself, as he did also on the following day when the Palatine desired to visit him. I acted in the same way to Count Henry.

Your Serenity's letters of congratulation to the Duke of York, now Prince Charles and heir to all these kingdoms, will come very opportunely. I have had audience of the Queen, to whom I did not offer condolences for the death of the Prince; I was advised to act thus, and so have other Ambassadors, because she cannot bear to hear it mentioned; nor does she ever recall it without abundant tears and sighs.

London, 11th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 12. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi, Venetian Archives.

813. The Ambassador of England was invited to the Cabinet, and the resolution of the Senate, passed yesterday, was read to him; he said that as this was despatch day, he would not be long in conveying to his Majesty their gracious reply; his Majesty will certainly be pleased to see that the marriage of the Princess is so gratifying to the Republic.

The King is always anxious to show his regard for the Venetian Ambassador at that Court. He will report the remarks as to the prisoner Gaetano, which he is sure will please his Majesty.

[*Italian.*]

April 13. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Florence. Venetian Archives.

814. Domenico Domenici, Venetian Resident in Florence, to the Doge and Senate.

Eight English ships have lately put into Leghorn; they are pirates, rich in money and merchandize; as is usual, all have been freely received.

Florence, 13th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

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1613.
April 15.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

815. Piero Priuli, Venetian Ambassador in Spain, to the Doge and Senate.

I have seen de Rodenburg, Agent of the Dutch, and spoke to him about the rumoured League with the Turk. He went so far as to say that he did believe that the question had been raised, but that nothing had been concluded as was alleged here. He thought the question might quite well be opened when they sent a new Ambassador. No one should be surprised if his Masters did embark on such schemes, as they were obliged to look to their own safety. I replied that no doubt every Prince was bound to seek his own advantage, but not in such a way as to run risks thereby, as was the case with a Turkish league. Knowing his Masters, I told him I thought it more likely that they sought to cause it to be believed here than to conclude the League in fact.

Madrid, 15th April, 1613.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

April 18.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

816. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Sir Henry Wotton, late Ambassador to your Excellencies, told me that if the Turk attacked Candia, as is feared, the King would send an Ambassador to your Excellencies on purpose to offer help on behalf of himself and his friends. He told me that on such an occasion the King would very likely abandon his friendly relations with the Turk; your Excellencies have galleys, and should look to ships; he had already, on his Majesty's orders, broached the subject in the Cabinet; he added that if the occasion should arise he himself intended to be the Ambassador, and would gladly assume the duty in order to be of service to your Excellencies. I replied briefly that I should report all to your Serenity, so that you might feel due gratitude to his Majesty and himself. I will take pains to find out if such be really his Majesty's resolve (*Farò diligenza per sapere se veramente sia stata nel Rè tal resolutione*), as I am not quite certain, although his Majesty said to me several times that your Excellencies might avail yourselves of him. What you can be sure of as depending entirely on your own will is this, in time of alarm an abundant supply of men and ships, stout and brave, to your clear advantage, and in time of open war a number of adventurers who, induced by hope of glory and of gain, would take service under your banner, and would inflict damage on the foe. The King of Denmark availed himself of such troops and received good service from them. In any case their number would be great, but greatest in a Turkish war, which God keep far from us. Here they hold it certain that the Sultan will go back to Constantinople; his forces are much reduced by the plague. The resolution of the Protestants to refuse to help the Emperor is confirmed. There are those who say that the Emperor is exaggerating the Turkish armament in order to extort contributions from Germany, but the Protestants are well aware of all that is going on.

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The Dutch Envoys two days after their arrival had audience. Their mission is a two-fold one; first to arrange for common trading in the Indies, then to lay plans for the complete expulsion of the Spaniards from those parts. On the first point they have explained to his Majesty that two years ago they spent large sums on acquiring those islands and have drawn but little profit from them. It is therefore unfair that English and other subjects of his Majesty should trade there without paying some contribution, and so be joint partners in the expenses and in the gains. The King listened readily, and approved of the arugments advanced by the Dutch and seemed to agree. (*Quanto alla prima han fatto vedere a sua Maestà con quanta spesa si siano impadroniti li due anni passati particolarmente di quell' Isole et quanto poco habbian profitato nel comertio; che hora non è ragionevole che negotiino gli Inglesi et altri sudditi della Maestà sua senza pagare qualche contributione et cosi esser ugualmente partecipi nella spesa et nel guadagno. Ha il Rè ascoltato prontamente et applaudendo alle ragioni dette da gli olandesi mostrò d'assentire.*) Both points will soon be settled. The Dutch have brought such quantities of merchandize from Cyprus and Syria that prices have fallen so much that they stand to lose eighteen and twenty per cent. of their capital, and that is quite certain; even here the cotton which fetched twenty-four pence three or four years ago now only fetches ninepence. (*Hanno olandesi condotto tanta quantità di merce di Cipro et Soria che son cadute in maniera di prezzo che converran perdervi* 18 *et* 20 *per cento del capitale; et cio è certissimo. Anco qui il gottone, che valeva* 24 *denari, tre e quatr' anni sono, si ha per* 9.)

London, 18 April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

817. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

To-morrow the Princess and the Elector will leave for Greenwich with the King and Queen. They will stay there three days and will then be accompanied by their Majesties at least as far as Rochester. The crowd that attends them is incredible. In Kent (*Cancia*), through which they will pass and which is one of the most flourishing counties of this kingdom, they will be met and accompanied by the infantry to the number of eight thousand and horse to the number of two thousand. The King has given orders that all the horse are to be in uniform and he has chosen the cloth, the lace and the plumes. The cost will exceed one hundred and twenty thousand crowns. The King has never been there before. The Duke of Lennox, the Earl of Arundel, Viscount Lisle, and Lord Harrington, who will proceed with their Highnesses, are to receive the counterdower, which is to be secured on the duty on Rhenish wines. They will all embark on board a galleon of one thousand four hundred tons, which the late Prince caused to be built and which preserves his name. It is thought to be the most beautiful ship England ever had. There are six hundred harquebusiers on board and four hundred mariners. There is no powder on board nor will any lights be used except in

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lanterns. She will be accompanied by two pinnaces which will carry the ammunition. Thus in order to secure their Highnesses' lives, there will be an escort of six royal galleons and others to the number of sixteen. At sea half way across they will be met by the Dutch fleet. When they have landed, the Elector will push on to the borders of his State, there to receive, with great magnificence, the Princess, who up to that moment will have been at the King's charges as also the Palatine on the journey. The Duke of Lennox will be made Earl (Duke) of Richmond* so as to have a seat in Parliament. Henry VII. was Earl of Richmond; it is a title usually given to the King's sons, or to those of the blood Royal. The King desires to have the Duke in Parliament. The Earl of Arundel has begged the King to allow him to go once more to Padua. Lord Harrington has obtained a royal warrant for coining farthings; but after it had been granted and confirmed by the Council it was suspended on account of the immense profit. His share was limited to twenty thousand crowns; the Duke of Lennox is to draw a similar sum. This step is very convenient, because hitherto there has been no small coin and so even the poorest person on the smallest of purchases was obliged to spend upwards of a *gazetta*; but to make such gifts without any heed seems peculiar to the King of Great Britain.

Anstruther is back from Denmark. He brings details of the peace. He reports that he met an Agent from the King of Spain going from Germany to Denmark. That does not please them here. I have visited the Prince, who remains here alone. He is growing fair as a flower, and in the few months since the death of Prince Henry he has developed greatly in body, far more than in many preceding months. His health is becoming sound; he advances in his studies, and he has a suavity of manner that renders him very popular. He said he desired always to share in your Excellencies' interests, and he particularly enquired after your Serenity and how you are, wishing you all prosperity in the most genial terms imaginable. He further asked me what I thought would be the outcome of the differences between the Pope and the Duke of Savoy. He is quite aware of his rise in importance, as he is now the only son; but all this only makes him more humane. I assured his Highness that your Excellencies were well content to hear of his advance. Your letters will arrive very opportunely.

London, 18th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 21. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

818. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

The son of the Marchese Villa, who was to have followed his father to England, has changed his mind and gone to Vercelli to take up his post as captain of the horse-guards.

Turin, 21st April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. Ap. 29, 1613. "Many Peers refuse to concur in a request for the Dukedom of Richmond to be granted to the Duke of Lennox."

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April 22.
Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Zante. Venetian Archives.

819. Francesco Donado, Venetian Governor in Zante, to the Doge and Senate.

A Dutch ship put in here a few days ago and left again immediately for Constantinople. I was told that on board was an Envoy from the Dutch with letters for the Grand Turk. A frigate from Strivali, which arrived the day before yesterday, reports five Maltese galleys there. The same reported by two English ships, which put in on their way from Naples and Leghorn. The south-west gale has driven ashore at the Saltpans a Dutch ship, which brought a cargo of grain from Volo.

Zante, 22nd April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 23.
Minutes of the Senate. Mar. Venetian Archives.

820. The Governors of the Arsenal have bargained with Martin Haureau and Alvise de Bois for soft English lead. Twenty tons from each at thirty-eight ducats, eighteen soldi the ton, besides being free of duty.

Ayes 133.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 3.

[*Italian.*]

April 26.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

821. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the 20th the Princess and the Elector left for Greenwich, accompanied by the King, the Queen, the Prince and all the Court. The day following I went to take my leave of their Highnesses and to wish them, in your Excellencies' name, a pleasant journey. I also waited on their Majesties and the Prince, but after I had seen their Highnesses, and this on the advice of Lord Hay, who understands; I was received by the Elector, who gave me the right hand and made me enter his chamber first, and during our talk he desired that I should face the door while he stood with his back to it. He then accompanied me to the Princess's room, which is separated by a wall and connected by a door. I insisted on his Highness entering first. Compliments were then exchanged. The Princess then in familiar fashion and smiling talked of her going to a fair country as she understood, but she did not know if it was as fair as this. She said the King would want to see her again after a little. And so after some further talk I took my leave. I accepted the right hand and the *pas* during my interview with the Elector, for so your Excellencies' dignity requires, and because it may serve as a precedent that one of your servants should have taken that position in one of the King's palaces, which is a public and neutral place, and I yielded the *pas* on entering the Princess's room as a recognition of the courtesy I had received. Thus on the one hand I have asserted your Excellencies' pre-eminence over the first Elector and the King's son-in-law, while on the other I have pleased the King.

I then waited on the King; I found all the rooms empty; his Majesty came out in his jacket, just as he was in his private

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chamber, and said he received me as his particular and dear friend, words which had been conveyed to me already by Lord Hay. I bowed profoundly and kissed his hand; he then began walking and asked me if I had seen his children; I said "Yes." He seemed to feel their departure keenly, and said he hoped to see them soon again and with off-spring; they were both born in the same year and in the month of August and had not yet finished their seventeenth year. All this he said with great tenderness. I said his Majesty was quite right to feel the separation, but great Sovreigns had this disadvantage that they were obliged to marry their children in foreign countries. Meantime there remained the Prince, who was daily growing stronger, and he would soon see the Princess back and with children, for which I prayed God. The King was mightily pleased and said I was right. He then went on to say that the Turk had returned to Constantinople; the French Ambassador had assured him of it, and also told him of the Queen's answer to the Emperor, and her intention of giving very little help and only if she saw the Turk prevailing seriously over the Austrians. He thought both Turkish and Cæsarean two Emperors worth little and well matched; that the King of Spain and the other Princes of the House of Austria are all alike—and other phrases showing little or rather no esteem. They marry only among themselves, and contrary to the law of God they take nieces and sisters-in-law to wife. When the King of Poland took the second sister to wife the Pope dispensed them, but said they would not prosper.

The Queen's rooms I found crowded by Ladies and Gentlemen; she kept me an hour in conversation mostly on light topics, her visit to the baths, of her journey next day to Rochester, and about the Prince. She spoke of the Duchess of Mantua. She then told me as a great secret, begging me to keep it to myself, that her brother the King of Denmark was treating of a marriage with a daughter of the Duke of Savoy; if it were concluded she promised to let me know. She was surprised that the King should marry, as he had three children, the eldest of whom would in five years' time be marriageable. She said the Prince wished to accompany his sister and brother-in-law down to the sea.

The following morning the Elector sent the Count of Solms first to the French Ambassador and then to me, and lastly to the Flemish Ambassador, to present his excuses for not calling in person, as that day he had to accompany his Majesty on the chase and to receive the Ambassador of Spain. Thus as far as the Flemish Ambassador is concerned all has gone in due order, and the visit has been made first to this house, though in order to do so they had to pass the house of the Archduke's Envoy. I have seen the Count of Schomberg, and what I was able to extract from him I report in the following despatch.

London, 26th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 26. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

822. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Schomberg told me that the King of Spain was aspiring to get himself elected King of the Romans. At present he is in close

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and secret negotiations with the Emperor, who, as he has no offspring, will, it seems, consent; it was therefore necessary to study the way to oppose him in the Diet. The King is aspiring to Austria, Moravia, Bohemia, and Hungary. He may easily succeed to the three provinces because Maximilian cannot live long, so too the Emperor and Albert, they are all ill and old and childless; of the Innsbruck branch no one remains save a single son of Ferdinand, the Marquis of Burgau, who does not bear the title of Archduke and is held for a bastard. There remains only Ferdinand of Graz, and the King of Spain has a better claim to the said provinces than he has. It is necessary to thwart the King's designs. As to the Turk it is said that he has gone back to Constantinople. If he aspires to Transylavania alone, that would be no affair of the Federated Princes, and they would take good care not to contribute, which would merely be placing arms in the hands of Spain. I asked him if it were true that the Dutch had made an alliance with the Turk with obligation to furnish a considerable number of vessels. He replied that they had only made a commercial treaty which gave them free entry into Turkish ports; if the Dutch fall in with Turkish ships being attacked by Spain or other powers, they are to render assistance and vice-versa. The Turk has made offers in favour of the Dutch, and maybe the Dutch Ambassador has said verbally something about Spain should she attack Holland, but not otherwise. Schomberg said he had a copy of the whole negotiations, which, as the Austrians were making an outcry, the Dutch had sent round to the various Courts. I have heard from the King's lips certain remarks which confirm this, and for sure the Dutch have no obligation to help the Turk with ships, as the Austrians go putting about. Grotius, the Dutch Deputy, has been to see me, and told me about his negotiations with the King, who has named commissioners to treat with him, which they have begun to do by two papers of proposal and reply. The Dutch are now masters of all the Moluccas with the exception of . . . . To achieve this they fought two battles with the Spanish fleet of thirty-six galleons and other ships of war. They have built ten forts. The islands originally belonged to Portugal, and at first the Portuguese wished to defend them by themselves, but were constrained to apply for help to the Castilians in the Filippines, but in vain. The Viceroy or General whom the Dutch will send out is to make his residence in Greater Java in the country of one of their Tributary Kings. Grotius and the other Dutch Agents offer to join the Dutch and English merchants, but as the Dutch Company wants to lay down a capital of four millions of gold, it is impossible for the English to produce such a sum, as they have as yet only twelve ships out there, while the Dutch have 43 besides the six that are going. The Dutch offer help if the English want to make themselves masters of the Filippines, which are garrisoned by Castilians. The Dutch have attacked Mozambique, which is beyond the Cape of Good Hope, and off the African coast opposite San Lorenzo, but the Spanish fleet compelled them to raise the siege. I gather from the remarks of Grotius that if they found any inclination here they might turn their attention to the West Indies as well. They argue that they would be entitled to do so,

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as, although it is contrary to the truce, the Spaniards were the first to break it in the East Indies.

The French Ambassador told me that the Turkish army had returned to Constantinople; it had mutinied twice, and the second time Nassuf had had great difficulty in quieting it. The Ambassador has received despatches from Villeroy which had reached him in four days. He is instructed to inform them here that there will be no trouble from the Turkish quarter. The Ambassador observed that if they had failed to effect anything by land they would still less be able to achieve any success by sea.

London, 26th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 26. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

823. Christoforo Valier, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the Doge and Senate.

A Cha'ush has arrived from Cairo, sent expressly by the Pasha to report the great damage inflicted by English and Dutch bertons *in the Red Sea. Their constant plundering of rich Turkish ships is threatening the great city of Cairo with ruin to its trade. Moreover, the Bey of Damietta has also arrived with a number of petitions, setting forth that the Portuguese, possibly in understanding with the Persians, intend to build a fort at Porto Muca.*

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 26th April, 1613.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

April 26. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

824. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Among your Serenity's subjects in the Duke's camp is Antonio Dotto,* who was banished many years ago. He was lieutenant in the cuirassiers of Luigi Donato at the time of the quarrel with the Pope.

The Englishman (Eston) has covered himself with glory here; among other achievements he is so skilful in training guns that a few shots fired by him produce more effect than most could produce by many. A stroke of luck for his Highness to have lighted on this man at such a juncture, for he not only brought him a big sum of money, but is of great assistance in himself.

Turin, 26th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

April 28. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

825. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Among all the envoys of foreign sovreigns resident at this court, the English agent is the only one whom the Duke has summoned to camp. *This is done to foster the idea of some secret intelligence with the King of England.*

Turin, 28th April, 1613.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

* *See* Cal. S.P. Ven., 1603, Dec. 11. *et passim.* James wrote a letter on his behalf.

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1613.
April 30.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

826. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marchese Villa, Savoyard Ambassador to England, arrived here some days ago. He will continue his journey as soon as he has had audience of the Queen. The English Ambassador here, on orders from home, is seeking through M. de Jacob to prevent this mission. The King of England is no longer in the same mind about this match as he was in the life of the late Prince. This mission does not rouse French suspicion and discussion as did the last one sent by the Duke while the Prince of Wales was alive. There is news from England that the Princess was to embark on the 23rd, and the Princess of Orange has sent to Flushing to meet her. She is to land there. News from Holland that Count Maurice also has gone and that the States are making great preparations. The Dutch fleet for the East Indies is both more numerous and more powerful than usual, and has sailed with the full intent to do as much damage to Spain as possible, in revenge for injuries received. The Princes of the Union are labouring to adjust the differences between Brandenburg and Neuburg over their joint "possession," in order that they may all be united on the points to be dealt with in the Diet, for the preservation of the union; and as neither France nor the Dutch choose to enter it they cling closer together. Here on the other hand they counsel the Princes to show themselves more yielding to the Emperor for fear lest their stiffness may induce him to name Albert, King of the Romans, as the Spaniards so eagerly desire, which would be highly dangerous to the Federate Princes. Here for the last few days there has been complaint of the Spanish on a rumour that the courts in Aragon had executed a gentleman attached to Antonio Perez, and who had sought asylum in France; his Catholic Majesty, to favour the French match and at the instance of the Queen, had granted a pardon to all such, and this gentleman on the strength of this had returned to his native land. Adding this to the delays the Spanish are making about sending the brides, there is much talk on the matter.

Paris, 30th April, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

May 2.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

827. To the Ambassador in England.

The differences between the Dukes of Savoy and Mantua did not finish quietly on account of various difficulties in the way. The Duke of Savoy secretly massed troops, and on the 23rd of last month he attacked Trino, Alba and Moncalvi in the Monferrat. Trino he took by petard; the other two are open places. We now hear that Mantua has recovered Moncalvi, and that Savoy has fortified the other two. Both parties are massing troops, both foot and horse. Everyone condemns Savoy for taking to arms while negotiations were proceeding, and for disturbing the public quiet. Mantua is judged to be in the right; and it is clear that France and Spain are of the same opinion, that the Duke must restore what he has taken, and that Mantua be preserved in possession of his

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States. We have resolved to support Mantua, a neighbouring and friendly Prince, and we are sending three hundred paid foot, and more if required, as the Grand Duke of Tuscany has done, sending horse and foot under the command of his brother, Don Francesco; the main object being to prevent the spread of this fire, and to resist any attempt to change the *status quo* in Italy, which by the grace of God has enjoyed many years of peace, thanks to the balance of power. This advantage might be lost if the position were changed, and if opportunity were given for the introduction of foreign arms, and the idea suggested to some who may be do not now contemplate it, that here is the occasion for aggrandisement. You are to lay all this before his Majesty and to inform him that we have moved all the other Courts to a vigorous intervention for the suspension of hostilities and restitution of places seized. Knowing what weight his Majesty rightly has with the Duke of Savoy, we beg him also to intervene; by so doing he will render a service to all the Princes of Italy.

These are your instructions; you will carry them out in appropriate form.

That a similar communication be made to the English Ambassador.

Ayes 198.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 6.

[*Italian.*]

May 3. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

828. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

I enclose a letter written from Vercelli by a French Captain.

Turin, 3rd May, 1603.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

Enclosed in preceding dispatch.

829. The Duke hopes to balance France by England. Gabaleone is to go to England. The English agent (Parkhurst) is with the Duke in Vercelli.

[*Italian.*]

May 3. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

830. The resolution of the Senate on the affairs of Mantua, passed yesterday, was read to the English Ambassador, who replied as follows: "Most Serene Prince, I must first of all ask pardon if in this disturbed state of Italy I have not come to you as the other Ambassadors have done to lay bare their ideas on the point. I have waited to be summoned, for at this distance I cannot tell what may be his Majesty's mind on the subject.

There is danger if these troubles continue. It is well known to all that his Majesty is a lover of right and justice and hates oppression; it is therefore to be supposed that he will be displeased at this violence and turbulence. I am honoured by your communication and will forward it to his Majesty. The representation will

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arrive opportunely as the Marchese Villa, the Savoyard Envoy, has just reached England." The Ambassador begged that the resolution might be read to him again.

[*Italian.*]

May 6. Senato, Mar. Venetian Archives.

831. Antonio Foscarini has completed his two years' service in England; his successor shall be appointed at the next sitting of the Senate. He shall have two hundred ducats of gold in gold per month, for which he need not account. For outfit three hundred ducats of lire 6 soldi 4. His Secretary shall have 100 ducats, and each of the two couriers 20. For all extraordinary expenses forty crowns of 7 lire each, excepting postage. The salary of the chaplain and interpreter is to be paid.

Ayes 191.
Noes 1.
Neutrals 1.

[*Italian.*]

May 10. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

832. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the morning of the day the Elector left he returned the Spanish Ambassador's visit. The Ambassador came down to the carriage, made him sit in a great chair while he took a stool, and on accompanying him back to the carriage he closed the door with his own hand just as he had opened it on the Palatine's arrival; the Ambassador always used most cordial and respectful language. The Ambassador went to take leave of their Highnesses at Greenwich the day following the one on which I had discharged the like duty. The Elector came down the stairs to meet him, and returned his courtesies. This action of the Ambassador has given rise to talk, for the first time they met he took the punctilio because the Elector addresssd him in French and without his titles, and so after once addressing the Elector as "Highness," he spoke in Spanish through an interpreter and in the third person. He now shows himself content with the Elector's recent attitude.

That same day the Corporation (*Università*) of London presented the Princess with a necklace of gems worth twenty-two thousand crowns and the Elector with silver gilt plate to the value of twenty-five. The King gave eighty thousand crowns worth of diamonds to the Prince; most of them belonged to the late Prince. The next day the couple continued their journey, accompanied by an infinite number of carriages and horses. Their Majesties went as far as Rochester, and the Prince to the landing place, which was as far again. Their reception everywhere was most pompous; all the people were in arms, but the King would not permit a single shot to be fired for fear of that danger which, upon sound indications, they thought might be threatening them. We have no news of their passage yet. They embarked twice and were to have embarked again on Sunday, but four hours later the wind changed, and up to yesterday we have no further news. The

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Prince was recalled on the 26th and three days later he was in London. This affair has cost the King four thousand crowns a day; their Highness' suite does not number a fifth of the persons who are fed under that pretext. Count Maurice has been for many days at Flushing to receive them and accompany them to the Hague. On St. George's Day there was to have been a great fête and the Elector, Maurice, Lennox, Arundel and the High Admiral would have appeared in the robes of the Garter; but the weather has upset all. They calculate that the presents made by the Elector exceed the amount of the dower, but he has received from the King's generosity an amount that one can hardly credit. General Cecil has been appointed treasurer for the whole journey, in which the money will be spent in regal pomp; such are the King's orders and intent.

I will now close this account of the wedding festivals with some curious details about the Masques. The first, which was at the King's charges, and was danced by ladies and gentlemen of title, was remarkable for the decoration of the theatre, for three changes of scene, for the dresses and for nine choruses of voices and instruments. The Masque of Monday appeared in this order. First came a hundred gentlemen on horseback, accompanied by a hundred grooms with lights in their hands. Then followed a little Masque on horseback with a large number of torches all alone; then two triumphal cars with musicians dressed in silver with turbans on their heads. These represented the priests of the Sun in Virginia. Then came the great Masque, all being dressed in cloth and silver, golden suns, and plumes. They represented Princes of Virginia with crowns of feathers and pearls on their heads, and their hair down to their shoulders as is the custom of that country; their horses, too, were all caparisoned in silver and suns. Then came a hundred blacks dressed in gold and blue, the dress of Indian slaves. Then came a great number of lights borne by men on horseback, dressed in silver and gold, like the great Masque, except the crowns. Then a triumphal car with two figures inside, representing Honour and Riches, and round it marched two hundred halberdiers. When the King entered the Hall one saw a mountain all full of crags and on the top the Temple of Honour, made of silver; an octagon with silver statues round the cornice; on its summit two golden wings sprang from a silver ball, signifying that Fortune and her son Honour had resolved to settle for ever in this Kingdom. Hard by the Temple was a wood and in it a huge tree-trunk which contained the whole of the little Masque. Hardly had the King appeared when the crags came forward five paces towards his Majesty; clouds gathered, the mountain split, and there appeared a rich mine of gold with all the Masque inside and a vast number of torches; it all took place in a moment. Then appeared the sun as at its setting; the priests adored it and part of them sang to lutes; they were answered by voices and instruments from the Temple, and from other parts of the Hall. Then Riches began to speak and again the crags moved; then after great eulogies of the couple, pronounced by Riches and Honour, all the Masque began to dance a ballet, with such finish that it left nothing to be desired.

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The last Masque* arrived by the river. It was preceded by twelve boats, filled partly with gentlemen and partly with music, all of them full of lights. On board the King's great brigantine came the Masque, followed by many other boats full of lights. At the entrance of their Majesties and their Highnesses, one saw the scene, with forests; on a sudden half of it changed to a great mountain with four springs at its feet. The subject of the Masque was that Jove and Juno desiring to honour the wedding and the conjunction of two such noble rivers, the Thames and the Rhine, sent separately Mercury and Iris, who appeared; and Mercury then praised the couple and the royal house, and wishing to make a ballet suitable to the conjunction of two such streams, he summoned from the four fountains, whence they spring and which are fed by rain, four nymphs who hid among the clouds and the stars that ought to bring rain. They then danced, but Iris said that a dance of one sex only was not a live dance. Then appeared four cupids, while from the Temple of Jove, came five idols and they danced with the stars and the nymphs. Then Iris, after delivering her speech, summoned Flora, caused a light rain to fall, and then came a dance of shepherds. Then in a moment the other half of the scene changed, and one saw a great plateau with two pavilions, and in them one hundred and fifty knights of Olympus, then more tents, like a host encamped. On the higher ground was the Temple of Olympian Jove, all adorned with statues of gold and silver, and served by a number of priests with music and lights in golden candelabra. The knights were in long robes of silk and gold, the priests in gold and silver. The knights danced, their robes being looped up with silver, and their dance represented the introduction of the Olympian games into this kingdom. After the ballet was over their Majesties and their Highnesses passed into a great Hall especially built for the purpose, where were laid long tables laden with comfits and thousands of mottoes. After the King had made the round of the tables everything was in a moment rapaciously swept away.

London, 10th May, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

May 10. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

833. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

This day fortnight the Spanish Ambassador paid me a visit. He told me he had found out for certain that the States had made no agreement to furnish the Turk with ships of war. This report had been sent from Flanders to Spain upon a baseless rumour, spread by the Dutch perhaps with a view to alarming Spain. Since the Truce the whole attention of the Dutch has been directed to the Indies; he considered this of great importance, and concluded by saying it must occupy his Master just now above all else.

In Flanders they are arranging for the distribution of money; the Catholic Sovreign has sent the Golden Fleece to two gentlemen, and to others the Cross of St. Jago, and pensions to many.

* The Masque, which was designed by Bacon, represented the marriage of the Thames and the Rhine.

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He has heard from Italy that the Duke of Savoy has sent an Ambassador here to treat of marriage; on which he observed that the Prince has not as yet thirteen years, whereas the Infanta has at least twenty-one; it is eleven years since her mother died. The Duke reports every thing here as accurately as a son would to a father. The Ambassador then went on to remark on the inconvenience caused by so many free ports in Italy, which become asylums for pirates. He showed suspicion about the French match for the Prince, and remarked on the powers with which the Elector had left England, being authorized by the King and the Federate Princes to conclude terms with the Dutch and to settle the way in which they can unite their forces.

I have several letters from the Hague, *written by the person who has charge of translating the despatches of the Ambassador in Constantinople and elsewhere. The first declares that the capitulations with the Turk contain nothing other than what Schomberg told me; he has translated it and would have sent a copy had he thought it would have been useful; as soon as he gets access to the secret Chancery of the Dutch he will make a copy and in future will furnish all that falls into his hands.*

I know your Excellencies will keep this secret, nor shall I fail to cultivate the good disposition of that person so that he may act. The Dutch cavalry is mustering between Arnhem and Nymigen on the borders of Guelderland, to escort the Palatine to Düsseldorf; there will be a review in the presence of his Highness. All hope of accord between Saxony and the "possessioners" is lost. The Landgrave at Berlin endeavoured, without success, to bring about an accord between Saxony and Brandenburg. Saxony declines to yield on any point; so all negotiations are broken off. The Elector of Saxony has, however, resolved to send an Ambassador in the name of all the Princes of his House to the Dutch, so as to explain his claims on Cleves and to urge them not to prevent his being admitted by force as a third in possession. He will not find the Dutch willing. Holland has proposed to the united provinces to join forces so as to secure free trade in the East Indies against those who would hinder it, not naming Spain. The Dutch commissioners have heard this with sorrow, as they knew it must lead to force. The first commissioner, Grotius, told me that a company might be formed, and the English could contribute in proportion to their power. The Spanish ought to be completely driven out.

The Archduke continues ill; in Brabant they are praying for his health. They desire his recovery, for they dread the Spanish Governor under whom they would come on his death.

The Savoyard Ambassador has reached Calais. Three days ago his Secretary went down to the coast to meet him and the King has assigned him a lodging and one hundred crowns a day to the person who is charged with feeding him. When that famous English pirate (Eston) was received at Nice or Villafranca, the Duke sent to inform the King and indicated that he would follow his Majesty's wishes. The reply was that it was only fair that those who had been plundered should each recover his share. The Ambassador will bring some definite resolution on the point. I will be on the watch and your Excellencies shall be informed.

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The Spanish Agent in Denmark has the title of Ambassador and is endeavouring to acquire naval material which the late King Philip used to get from that kingdom during Elizabeth's reign. He has dwelt on all that his Master could do if requested, as regards the passage of the Sound (*Sont*), the causing of trouble with the Dutch, and has also touched on the possibility of marriage between the second Infanta of Spain and the Prince of Denmark—a very perfect youth in all his actions,—and shown a great desire that his Catholic Majesty should see him, when all would be concluded. The arts of the Ambassador are full of sagacity and he makes vast offers. All this King Christian reports to Queen Anne his sister, and also that he has sent away the Ambassador very well satisfied; and thinks of sending a return Embassy to Spain. This I learned yesterday week when I went to visit the Great Chamberlain, and it was *told me by the person who deciphered the despatch, which was not quite finished.* Her Majesty has received five letters and shows and feels great pleasure at the honour bestowed on her brother by so great a King. I was further informed that in the late troubles the King of Denmark had declared himself of the same opinion as the King of England in favour of your Excellencies. This Embassy from Spain to Denmark rouses suspicion in the Dutch.

Last week I received your despatches and have spoken to the person with whom lies the matter of audiences; but I have been suffering from the usual cold and toothache and had to give in to the illness, take medicine and go to bed, where I have lain till to-day. This has obliged me to postpone my audience.

London, 10th May, 1613.

[*Italian: the parts in italics deciphered.*]

May 11. Senato, Secreta. Despatches from Savoy. Venetian Archives.

834. Vicenzo Gussoni, Venetian Ambassador in Savoy, to the Doge and Senate.

Gabaleone left by post for England the day before yesterday. His mission is to ask for English support. *The English agent has long and frequent interviews with his Highness: I do not know whether about this present business or merely to enhance his importance. He called here yesterday and used expressions which made me doubt whether he had come of his own accord and not from the Duke. He did not say that his Master would put his forces at the disposition of Savoy, but he uses phrases which leave perplexity and doubt. He urged that as both Savoy and Venice were friends of the King it would be as well that they should stand together.*

Turin, 11th May, 1613.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

May 14. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

835. Zorzi Giustinian, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the Doge and Senate.

The Marchese Villa on his way to England had audience of the Queen on the 2nd, before the news of Monferrat had arrived. As he left immediately it is thought that he was aware of his Master's intention and wished to get away.

Paris, 14th May, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

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May 17.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

836. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Saturday the Savoyard Ambassador was here; the next day I visited him; at my departure came the Ambassador of Spain and while I was there the Master of the Ceremonies, who waited on him in the King's name and informed him that his Majesty would receive him two days later. Accordingly on Tuesday he went with a great company. At the Ambassador's second bow the King rose, and at the third he raised his hat. The audience lasted a quarter of an hour. The King did not cover till the Ambassador had left the chamber. His Majesty raised and put on his hat several times. The only topic was compliments. The Ambassador will have a private audience. The next day he visited the Prince, then the Spanish Ambassador, and then this Embassy. He told me the Duke would have liked to come in person to kiss his Majesty's hand, but that the present position of affairs prevented him. He then asked me what news I had from Italy about the Infanta dowager, whom the Duke of Mantua had sought as wife. The Duke draws 292,000 crowns from Monferrat, and 170,000 from Mantua, and another 45,000 from extraordinary sources. In jewels, plate and furniture he has another million, while the debts left by Duke Vicenzo amount to little more than 400,000 crowns. He had reported all this to the Duke of Savoy and advised him to give his daughter to the Duke of Mantua. The Duke of Savoy had shown surprise, and he thought it a strange thing that his daughter should become the wife of her husband's brother, especially as there are sons. While discussing the income of Mantua, the Ambassador showed surprise at finding it so big. The Dukes Vicenzo and Francesco used to speak freely to him, and to use his own expression, told him all about their affairs. He remarked that Duke Francesco was quite Spanish, whereas this Duke was quite French; he said this as though it were a consideration which might hinder the match. He ended by saying that the Queen of France had spoken in kindly terms of the Duke of Mantua. The following night the King had a courier from his Ambassador in France telling him that the Duke of Savoy had seized a large part of Monferrat. The King sent at once to inform the Ambassador and to ask if he had any news on the subject. The Ambassador, when visiting me, dwelt on these acquisitions made by the Duke his Master, chiefly about Alba, a town, and Trino, a fortress. As long as he had had the management of the affair things had gone quietly, but when the Duke took charge he was his own Master. He regretted that, having settled with Duke Vicenzo that the Po should be the frontier, those who succeeded him would not assent. He had advised the Duke to buy Sabionetta. He thought all would be adjusted. Spain did not want war in Italy; this he knew for certain, as the Governor of Milan had told him that he had express orders from the King to settle all disputes quietly. I imagine your Excellencies will have heard all this already, but I send it as it may interest you to have it from the lips of the man who managed the business, and also his opinion on the affair of Monferrat.

The day he waited on the King the carriage of the Archduke's Ambassador endeavoured to press up next to Spain; but your

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Excellencies' place was kept; and some of his grooms who tried to prevent this got what they deserved at the hands of certain grooms of this Embassy. On the way back from Court each one had his proper place quietly. Yesterday on visiting the Prince the Flemish Ambassador was not seen.

The Queen has gone to Bath,* ninety miles away; she will not be back for three or four weeks. The Savoyard Ambassador has made up his mind to go to find her, in a few days, and to kiss hands. He will present her in the Duke's name with a crystal casket mounted in silver gilt of great value. He is expecting a number of lions as a present for the King and other kinds of beasts which are on the road.

London, 17th May, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

Enclosed in preceding despatch.

837. Letter from the Duke of Savoy.

M. de Jacob has informed me of your courtesy to him while you were in France, and Gabaleone, my auditor fiscal, confirms the same on his return from England. I am much obliged and am ready to be of service to you if occasion arises.

Turin, 2nd April, 1613.

May 19. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

838. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On last Sunday week the Princess and the Elector embarked, but presently the wind changed, and so after nearly two days at sea they were forced to return to Margate, whence they had sailed. On Wednesday they made the passage successfully, and were met by Maurice and the Dutch fleet. From Flushing they went to Middelburg, where the Elector stayed only one hour, as he had received despatches. He left the Princess with Maurice and pushed on to the Hague to lay proposals before the States for a close union with the Protestant Princes, and to discuss the steps for uniting their forces. The King has sent orders to his Ambassador in Holland to lend his assistance to the Elector. The Hanseatic Towns have given, one may say, the last touch to their confederation with the States. The King would have liked them to have informed him, but they say the contract is not stipulated as yet, and that they will not fail at the right moment; so His Majesty is satisfied. The Dutch Envoys have drawn up a new statement, in which they declare that Spain alone hinders trade in the East Indies, and if the English are ready to join the Dutch in making war they have only to come to an understanding; in no other way can trade be secure; but if the English are not firmly resolved on this then it would be better to leave the Dutch a free hand; if the English want time to consider, the Dutch are willing to wait. They produce original orders from the King of Spain, intercepted on

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. Ap. 29. "The Queen with a noble train gone to Bath. At Lord Knollys' house, *en route*, she was entertained with a Masque by the Lord Chamberlain's four sons and others."

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board a ship, by which he commands the expulsion from the East Indies of Italians, French, English and others; and further a copy of similar orders for the West Indies. The English are in some perplexity, and the affair is in his Majesty's hands. Grotius told me that if the matter rests with his Majesty it will soon be settled; if it be again remitted to others it will take time; in any case the Dutch are resolved to build new ships for the Indies and to strengthen their forces there and to expand largely. He launched out in praise of your Excellencies and dwelt on the esteem that the Dutch feel; and he said that on any occasion you could always count on their ships and men.

The Muscovites, who are dependent on the Patriarch, have made large offers through the King to the English Merchant Company which trades there. They have sent agents and laid matters before the King and Council, but nothing has been settled as yet.* What the Muscovites ask is troops and orders to drive out the Poles; in return they offer to place ports in his Majesty's hands, to depend on his orders and to pay the troops themselves. I am told that the King is inclined to the idea, but the Council is divided in opinion.

The Savoyard Ambassador, yesterday, had audience, which was granted him late in the day after the King's return from Richmond. The Ambassador went very privately with his staff only, as he will continue to do. They spoke in a loud voice so that many were able to hear. He only asked his Majesty what news he had from France and elsewhere as to his Master's attack on Monferrat; and endeavoured to find out what his Majesty thought of it and what would be his attitude if the affair went further. The English Ambassador in France writes that when the Queen heard the news she at once sent despatches to Rome, Spain and Turin. She wants to come to an understanding with the Pope to work for peace, and to find out whether the Duke's action was taken with the consent of Spain; the despatches to Turin contain vigorous protests addressed to his Highness. It is the first wish of the Queen and of Villeroy to find out whether the Duke acted by himself; in that case he would be in some peril, or whether Spain gave her consent and why. It is not honourable to use force without first showing cause. In any case it seems that there is an intention to support Mantua, and some orders have been issued to Lesdiguières. The King of England, I can assure your Excellencies, loves peace and will never act unreasonably. I shall see the person who usually gives me my confidential information; he can be trusted, for he knows; and this day week I will inform you of what his Majesty has said and written, as well as what his inner thought is.

London, 19th May, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

May 23. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

839. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet, and spoke as follows:—

"As the question between Savoy and Mantua continues and as all are interesting themselves in it in obedience to their own

* *See* Cal. S.P. Dom. Ap. 29. "Some of the nobility of Muscovy having offered to put themselves under the King's protection, he is full of a scheme to send an army there and rule that country by a deputy, and is sanguine of success."

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wishes, public or private, I have thought it right to stay no longer with my arms folded but to come here and to make such representations as the times require. And as I am too far off to have full light on my Master's mind, I act as does the sailor on the high seas and I turn my gaze to the three stars that circle round that pole, love of peace, his own honour and dignity, and the community of his views and ideas with those of the Republic coupled with the interests of your Serenity. I do so all the more willingly in view of the confidence you have shown me and because of the rumours afloat that his Majesty fosters these troubles. How great is his Majesty's desire for peace he showed when he entered his kingdom of Great Britain; he found it engaged in war which was favourable to his subjects, yet he restored all to the original calm. It is well known with what sincerity he applied himself to the conclusion of the truce between his ancient foes and the United Provinces, and what he has done in the quarrel between Denmark and Sweden. Wherever he has laid his hand he has succeeded. No one is ignorant of his active intervention in the affair of Juliers with a view to secure general peace to the satisfaction of all. Though many occasions have presented themselves in which he might have enlarged his possessions, he has always preferred to every other consideration the desire for peace. No one, therefore, can reasonably urge that it is he who is fomenting these troubles.

As to the second head, I need not say much. It is clear that his Majesty loves justice, nor can his honour be injured by rumours afloat, especially in Rome, where, as their passions sway them, they say things credible and incredible. They said at one time that Protestants were coming to occupy Saluzzo; they say the same now of Monferrat. I know your Serenity will lend no ear to such conjectures until the truth is cleared up. I, being well aware of his Majesty's regard for the Republic, am come this morning to give a proof." With that he drew some letters from his pocket and said they were from the Grisons, and that he would leave copies so as to save the Secretary trouble, as they were very difficult to read, being written in that character. The first was old, he had kept it without showing it as it was not so clear as the second, which had given him reason to present both.

The letters run thus:

"Chur, 8th March, 1613.

I have nothing new to report, only that I suspect that those who brought about the rupture of the Venetian League are now scheming for a treaty with Milan, which would be to the great prejudice of the Republic. I should, however, like this to be locked in your Excellency's breast; I can assure you that some of these Cantons would dearly like to be the means of renewing the League between these two Republics; but attention must be paid to this before negotiations with Milan have gone too far, and before the expiry of the existing league, which takes place in August next."

"Chur, 4th May, 1613.

The attack by the Duke of Saxony on Mantua gives an excellent opportunity for renewing negotiations upon which the door seemed closed. For as this dangerous innovation has taken place almost

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at the gates of the Venetian Dominions, no prudent Prince could reasonably suspect hostile designs if the Senate resolved to protect its possessions by garrisoning its fortresses with soldiery from its good neighbours and friends; and so, by making a discreet levy among our nation for service in their garrisons, I take this to be an excellent opportunity, in the brief space which remains to the end of the ten years, for pushing on negotiations for a renewal. It would also help to cut across the Milanese negotiations, which are being pushed ably and secretly. The supporters of that treaty have secured from the Governor of Milan leave to import one thousand casks of wine and several hundred measures of rice into the Grisons, and have begun the work, to the content of our people, to whom this is exaggerated as a proof of goodwill and neighbourliness on the part of the State of Milan. As that State has promise of abundant crops, it can in the future always resort to the same method when it wishes matters to take a turn favourable to it. In addition to the advantage a levy of troops in our nation would bring with it, we must add the readiness of the Swiss Cantons also to have some part in the new treaty."

After the letters had been read, the Ambassador remarked "This appears to me an excellent conjuncture and an easy way to serve the Republic and to renew the treaty with the Grisons; it is well known how long it took and what pains and expense it required, what difficulties had to be overcome, before the original treaty was signed. Now the opportunity presents itself as easy. It would secure your cities and would please the Grisons; the occasion should not be lost."

Francesco Moresini, the Senior Councillor, replied that the praises of his Majesty were always grateful; and, as to the second point, it would receive that close attention which its nature required.

The Ambassador said that in order that those who were on the look out as to who came and went in the Cabinet might cease to pry into what the English Ambassador had said or done, he would prefer two requests; one on behalf of a poor Scot whose suit is sent from Court to Court; he now begs that a special tribunal may be appointed to try and finish his case. A memorial had already been presented on the subject.

His second request was that as England was now free of plague he begged that he might be relieved from the annoyance of the Lazzaretto and the activity of the Sanitary Officers. This is a request he made six months ago, and he was told that they would speak to the officials. He was sure it could be done now without any danger, and at this juncture it would be all the greater favour as he was receiving letters on important affairs and they would not be opened or lost.

As to the first request, Moresini said he believed the memorial existed and their Lordships would take it into consideration; he could say no more as he was not informed. As to the second, they would speak to the Sanitary office to do all they could, but the office acted very cautiously in such cases, more so in Venice than elsewhere. As to his letters, every care would be taken that they were neither lost nor read.

[*Italian.*]

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May 23.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

840. To the Ambassador at the Cæsarean Court, and the Same to France, Spain and England.

You will have heard of our resolve to assist Mantua. Thereupon the Duke of Savoy gave our Ambassador eight days to leave Turin, and we replied by express that he was to leave at once, for though our assistance is intended in the interests of peace it does not suit us that our Envoys should continue where our intentions are misunderstood. The Duke sent fresh troops, both foot and horse; he appealed to Geneva and Bern and made it clear that he intended to support his claim in every way and showed no sign of desiring to come to an accord. Judging by his nature it is easy to believe him capable of any attempt. On the other hand the Duke of Mantua began to arm, but in view of the general prohibition he found difficulty in equipping his own troops and those that were sent in his aid. We do not know whether the Grand Duke's troops are yet in the Monferrat, but they will arrive soon it is hoped. The interview between the Cardinal Duke and the Governor of Milan, and the negotiations of Monsig. Massimi, envoy of his Holiness, have produced no results; Savoy is too firm in his designs. The Governor of Milan continues to show a disposition to assist Mantua, but his preparations so far proceed slowly. He has sent a certain number of Spanish infantry to Ponte Stura in Monferrat, in the hope that the Savoyards will respect the royal ensign, and desist from attacking that place. He has sent the Prince of Ascoli, his general, with some cavalry into Monferrat, with orders to effect a junction with the troops of Mantua, and to succour Nizza. Every one is waiting to see what orders come from Spain and France, as they will give the true direction to this affair. The Pope will be influenced by them, though as yet he is inclined to recognize the justice of the Mantuan cause. This for your information.

Ayes 187.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 3.

[*Italian.*]

May 24.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

841. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Savoyard Ambassador asked the Spanish Ambassador if he had any news about what had taken place in Mountferrat; the Spaniard replied that he knew only too much; just as minds were growing calm, the Duke had suddenly and of his own design disturbed the peace of Italy. This will certainly be displeasing in Spain. The Savoyard was struck dumb. Next day he had audience of the King and said that if, as he believed, the report were true, his Master had the following reasons for his action; the Duke of Mantua had refused to allow the daughter to follow the mother and had kept back her property, furniture, plate and jewels, which amounted to two millions of gold, to which he was undoubtedly heir. He touched on the threats of France. The King gave him fair words; and with that and some other remarks on the match and

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on Geneva he sent off a courier that same night. Since then his Majesty has not uttered a word in favour of the Duke, and I am told that he is displeased that force was used before reason; this is the view of the Council. The Spanish Ambassador told me that the Governor of Milan at one time had a command in Piedmont and had received favours from the Duke, who sent to beg his assistance in terms which were displeasing after he had undertaken to act by himself. It is true that the Governor had the title of Marquis of San Germano from his Highness, but he has since dropped it. Times are changed. Spain's orders now are that all is to be settled quietly. Accordingly the Governor told the Duke that he must make restitution, and at the same time he marched his horse and foot for the support of Mantua. Lesdiguières has pushed forward. Savoy's action is blamed. The proposals about the match advanced by the Ambassador were concluded in general terms, and were mingled with expressions of sorrow for the death of the Prince. He also mentioned Geneva and showed an inclination to accept his Majesty's views; he urged his Majesty to intervene. Both these points will be laid before Council, so his Majesty desires; and both will take time. The day before yesterday the Ambassador waited on the Prince, but merely treated him with high respect, to win his favour.

London, 24th May, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

May 25. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

842. To the Ambassador in England.

Previous despatches will have informed you of the movement of Savoy in Monferrat and of our resolve in favour of Mantua. The Duke, on learning it, showed great resentment and used unbecoming language to our Ambassador, fixing a date for his departure; when this came to our knowledge we instructed the Ambassador to leave at once without waiting a further answer. We are now informed that the Duke has sent the Agent of the English Sovreign at Turin and the Count della Ruffia (Cartignana), one to Geneva and the other to Bern, to ask for aid. They have orders to go on to England to explain the situation. The Duke says he hopes to have five and twenty ships from that part and with these and his own he intends to come into the Adriatic to damage us. We have no doubt that such is his real intent; but we are sure that such a request will not meet with the slightest support in the just mind of his Majesty; nay, we are convinced that his resolution will be guided by his singular wisdom and love of peace. We have, however, decided that you should lay these plans of the Duke before his Majesty, because we do not desire that our silence should raise a doubt in his mind that we are not sure of his attitude. As his ample kingdoms are full of men bred and broken to privateering we would beg him to take such steps as may render vain any secret attempt to induce some of these, in the hope of gain, to entertain proposals in that respect, and to prevent the Duke, with the support of such forces, from joining hands with those whom we least desire to see united with him.

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You will carry out these instructions as soon as possible; and we are sending an express to overtake the courier who left yesterday; if he does not succeed in this he is to go right on to you. You will take care that his Majesty does not suspect that we doubt his attitude. You will forestall the Savoyard Envoys and watch their proceedings.

That the above be communicated to the English Ambassador here.

Ayes 182.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 9.

[*Italian.*]

May 30. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

843. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On Friday I received your Excellencies' despatches of the 2nd informing me of the Duke of Savoy's action in the Monferrat, the general disapproval, and your resolution to assist Mantua with three thousand infantry. Also the instructions to beg his Majesty to interpose his great weight with the Duke of Savoy to induce him to lay down his arms, to restore what he has seized, and to set forth his claims by the methods of law and order. I at once sought audience through the Chamberlain. The King returned to London the following evening, and on Sunday the Chamberlain asked for audience, which was granted me for Tuesday morning. I found the King attended by the Prince and various Lords of the Council. He listened graciously. I said I had two missions to fulfil, and I would begin by the elder. I presented your Excellencies' letters of congratulation on the marriage of the Princess and the Elector, which I accompanied with expressions of regard; he opened the letter and looked at it with a cheerful countenance and signs of pleasure. After a few further remarks I proceeded to say "Sire, your Majesty will have heard that the Duke of Savoy has seized the fortress of Alba, as well as Trino and Moncalvi. This he did while negotiations were still afoot and the Duke of Mantua was living without any suspicion of such an unforeseen invasion; he has however, recovered Moncalvi, and both sides are gathering troops. This event has displeased all Italy; it is thought the Duke would have done much better to have acted quietly; justice is on the side of Mantua. It is thus that the Envoys of France and Spain view the case and so does the Serene Republic, which has resolved to assist Mantua with three thousand men. The Grand Duke too is marching troops. Everyone's object is to keep the peace in Italy, *for taking arms may easily rouse the idea of making conquest in the minds of those who are not thinking of it as yet.* I have orders to lay all this before your Majesty and to say that the Republic has written to all the Courts urging the cause of peace, and that she begs your Majesty, should it so please you, to use your influence with the Duke of Savoy to this same end." The King replied that everything had been settled and every difference resolved; and he added that he had not

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intervened because he supposed that in the time it would take to communicate with Savoy every difficulty would have been accommodated. His Ambassador at Venice informed him that the Duke of Mantua and the Prince of Piedmont had gone to Milan to treat of an accommodation. I asked his Majesty what were the terms and whence he had the news; he replied that his Ambassador in France had it from M. de Jacob, that the Duke of Savoy had restored the three places and had received instead some villages of small importance as caution for payment of the Infanta's counter-dower and some old debt he claims on the grounds of Monferrat. He said the Pope had not intervened, and here he uttered some expressions extolling Pope Clement, pausing in his walk and bidding me reflect. Certain it is that the King is full of zeal and piety. He showed amazement that the Duke of Savoy should have embarked on a war without any certainty of support, and if he thought to succeed against all the Princes of Italy, France and Spain, he must be daft. The French Ambassador has already spread the report that the Duke has accepted terms that bring him no honour, but that is not true. The terms are as the King explained. He praised your Excellencies' line of conduct; his Ambassador in Venice has reported to him that the Duke of Mantua had, as it were, thrown himself upon your protection. He asked me the leading motives of your policy, and I said "to preserve the peace of Italy, to defend the right and to remove *the opportunity of aggrandisement for those who, perhaps, do not at present entertain such ideas;* also the interests of a friendly sovreign." He said your Excellencies were employing your money to keep the peace, where others spent it to make war. He then said that he had heard that the King of Spain had made offers to your Excellencies in case of a movement by the Turks, and added, "Write to your Masters that I am better at deeds than at words; they know how I acted during the late troubles; in the event under discussion, assure them that I would come to their aid with all my forces. I will prove it with the power of myself, my friends and relations. I shall also instruct my Ambassador in Venice to speak about this at the right moment. The King of Spain has also sent an Ambassador to the King of Denmark, with portraits of the Infantas; and yet he has no intention of matrimonial alliance. My brother-in-law could not do less than send an Embassy to Spain in return. Now the Spanish go about saying that this is the beginning of an alliance; but the King of Denmark will always be with us; all the same it will be as well to keep him to it. When the Republic was in difficulties, you know that along with me he openly declared for her and was ready to act vigorously; I do not know that he was ever thanked; yet one could hardly do less. Write that too in courteous terms; for one ought at all times to pay attention to one's friends, so as to be able to use them on occasion. The Danish Ambassador sent to Spain will be here on his way back and he has orders to report to me all his negotiations; I will inform you. You are probably aware of the efforts which were made to sow discord with the Dutch, who in truth did bear themselves somewhat rudely, but all has gone off well." I took my opportunity and said "Sire! It is said that the Dutch have

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concluded an alliance with the Turk and bound themselves to assist him with a large number of ships against Christians, your Majesty will know if it be true." He replied "It cannot be; my Ambassador would have told me; he would certainly know it, as he is a member of their Council." He informed me that on an express agreement his Ambassador had a seat at Secret Council meetings as Councillor of the United Provinces. It is certain that they have made no such impious and iniquitous stipulation. He would write that very day to his Ambassador for full information, and he would have an answer in ten or twelve days. "Meantime assure their Excellencies that it cannot be; No, no."

He has had no letters from the Princess and the Elector since they were at Middelburg, nor news since the ships returned. He attributes this to the contrary winds. From Germany attempts at an accord between Saxony and Brandenburg are on foot. In the Imperial Diet nothing of moment will be discussed, for the retirement of the Turkish forces has decided the Palatine and Brandenburg not to attend in person. While speaking of his Ambassador in Venice, the King showed perfect satisfaction with him, and I, seeing that this would please him, embarked on the Ambassador's praises. All favours shown to the Ambassador will be well bestowed, for he is very high in the King's good graces.

London, 30th May, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

May 30. Senato, Secreta. Deliberazioni. Costantinopoli. Venetian Archives.

844. To the Ambassador in Constantinople.

You are to represent to the Turkish Ministers that the Duke of Savoy is a Prince of a turbulent nature, of small States and weak forces, who, to support his ill-founded claims, gives asylum in his harbours to all corsairs who sail from the West to damage the Turks. He allows them to fly his flag and has declared the port of Nice free port for all pirates. A very famous one* is even now in his service. This man has on other occasions injured the Turks and it is now intended to send him into those waters to commit the like excesses. We have therefore been obliged to give orders to our commanders to treat as pirates all vessels flying the flag of Savoy.

Ayes 150.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 5.

[*Italian.*]

June 1. Senato, Terra. Venetian Archives.

845. Vote of Salary for Gregorio Barbarigo, appointed Ambassador to England.

Two hundred ducats of gold in gold a month.
One thousand ducats of gold as a gratuity.
Three hundred ducats of lire 6 soldi 4, for equipages.
One hundred and eighty six ducats, year's salary and board for chaplain.

* Eston.

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Thirty-three ducats, eight grossi, for four months' pay of interpreter.

One hundred and fifty ducats for couriers and post.

One hundred and sixty crowns for four months' secret service money.

One hundred ducats to the Secretary.

Twenty ducats a piece to each of the two Couriers.

Four hundred ducats worth of plate.

Ayes 158.
Noes 0.
Neutrals 10.

[*Italian.*]

June 2. Senato, Mar. Venetian Archives.

846. That, to please the Ambassador of the King of Great Britain, the cause now pending between Andrea Fontana, Brothers, merchants, of the one part, and James Griff (? Grieve) of the other, on account of a sequestration obtained by Fontana, over certain goods lying in the German Exchange House, be transferred to the *Cinque Savii Sopra la Mercantia*, with power, *citatis citandis, auditis audiendis et servatis servandis*, to pronounce judgement. The judgement of the majority to be final.

Ayes 133.
Noes 6.
Neutrals 27.

[*Italian.*]

June 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

847. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Four days ago Gabaleone arrived. He had left Turin on the 9th of last month. In Paris he received news of the suspension of arms between Mantua and Savoy, and he hopes that the settlement will only be an affair of a few hours now, but is not certain of this. The ordinary post from Venice brings no news of peace in that quarter. In this doubtful condition of affairs I sent the day before yesterday to Greenwich to ask for audience. To-day his Majesty has gone to Theobalds. I will press for audience in order to say to his Majesty that as he in the first instance showed a disposition to interpose his authority with the Duke, and would have done so had he not heard that all differences had been arranged, so now I begged him in your Excellencies' name to secure, if so it pleased him, that Savoy should lay down arms, restore what he has taken from Mantua, and make good his claims by civil process. I shall guide my conduct by his answer and will report fully to your Excellencies. The day before yesterday the French Ambassador told me that his Queen would send a large force over the Alps, under Lesdiguières, if Savoy did not restore the places he had taken. Lesdiguières was urging this, and the Dukes of Maine and Guise had sought her leave to go to the assistance of Mantua with large forces. He showed me a letter from the Governor of Milan to the Queen, briefly reporting events

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and saying that he has forces sufficient to keep Savoy in his place without the need for her to send troops. This was followed by a second letter from the Governor saying that he was arming, and that in view of the increased forces of Savoy he did not think it prudent to adventure himself. It is certain that Lesdiguières will now pass the Alps, as the Queen is bound by her word, by blood and by interest. Gabaleone, who came to see me yesterday, told me that on his arrival in Paris he found the Queen angry and the whole Court in a commotion, but having brought very humble letters from the Duke and having set out his Master's case, the excitement subsided. He produced a manifesto of the Duke in which he declared that he regretted that Mantua had placed the affair in the hands of the Governor of Milan instead of appealing to her Most Christian Majesty. The Duke of Mantua has not as yet made any report to the Queen. The whole affair arose over letters of Nevers. I gathered, however, that the Queen was waiting the hourly arrival of Condé and de Bouillon to come to a decision as to whether Lesdiguières should cross the Alps or not. The Duke of Savoy has remarked that it would have been better to place the affair in the hands of your Excellencies, as being a powerful Italian Prince, capable of arranging the business; even if Mantua had had recourse to Spain or to some great Power, that would have done, but to choose a mere Governor was unbecoming. Peace will be reached. All the Princes desire it and the Duke is willing.

On Monday the Ambassador dined with the King; he was served in State by the great officers. Half-way through dinner the Prince covered; which is unusual in the presence of the King. A little after the King caused the Ambassador to be covered. The King drank to the health of the Duke. The Prince tilted at the ring in the King's presence. The King spoke little to the Ambassador and did not touch on business. Gabaleone will stay on; the Marchese Villa will take his leave.

I am told by those who know that the King finds the larger part of Savoy's claims are reasonable, but that he was in the wrong to take up arms, as he could have maintained his rights in another fashion. People here think Savoy moved without orders from Spain; but that Spain may seize the occasion to spread.

London, 7th June, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

June 7. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

848. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador sent by the King of Denmark to the King of Spain is the Grand Chancellor; he has one other envoy with him and twelve gentlemen in his suite, each with two servants, about eighty persons in all. He sailed on April 28th with three ships, and as he had a fair passage he should now be landed and be near the Court. On Easter Tuesday Calmar was handed to Sweden. Denmark hopes to keep Helsingborg on payment of five hundred thousand dollars and the remission of the million due to the Crown.

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Denmark is going to abolish the heavy dues imposed on shipping passing through the Sound. This will be a great advantage to all north Europe, but especially to these Kingdoms. The Danish Envoy pointed out to me the powerful position of his Master, who now possesses eight hundred miles of seaboard; he has taken the best of the Swedish ships and added them to his own fleet.

The Dutch desired to consult the Queen of France before binding themselves closer to the Princes of the Union. Then the Prince produced his proposals, and all was settled. He then went to Middelburg, and then returned to the frontier to meet the Princess. The last touches have been given to the treaty between the Dutch and the Hanseatic towns. The Dutch envoys have left after coming to an arrangement about uniting their forces in the East Indies against Spain. The enterprise will be conducted under the auspices of the Dutch, as his Majesty is at peace with Spain. Envoys will be sent to Holland to plan the operations. Meantime the King agrees that his subjects shall not trade in places acquired by Dutch blood and money, without paying an equivalent. In Flanders one thousand three hundred horse have been disbanded, and two regiments dismissed. The Spanish are always suggesting a definite peace with the Dutch, who show no disposition towards it. The King has written to his Ambassador in Holland to send him full particulars of the treaty between the Dutch and the Turk.

Parliament will meet in Ireland on the 18th of this month. There has been some difficulty in electing the Lower House; but the imprisonment of some and the punishment of others has served as a warning.

London, 7th June, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

June 8. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

849. To the Captain of the Great Galleys.

You will see from enclosed copy of a passage in a despatch from our Secretary in Milan, that Peter Eston, an English pirate, has made an offer to the Duke of Savoy to raise for him some privateers if they get leave to fly the flag of Savoy. If you fall in with any such you are to treat them as pirates.

Ayes 172.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

June 8. Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

850. To the Commissioner (Proveditore) with the Fleet.

Warning him to be on the look out for Eston and English pirates flying the flag of Savoy.

Ayes 172.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 2.

[*Italian.*]

851. The same to the Governor General in Dalmatia.

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June 11.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

852. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The King gave me audience this morning at Greenwich. I spoke to him, as I said I would, begging him, in the name of the Republic, to interpose his authority so that the Duke of Savoy should lay down arms and, restoring the *status quo ante*, should support his claims by legal procedure, as his Majesty would have done had he not been informed that the matter was already settled. But now, seeing that war was actually spreading, I again renewed the request. The King replied in these terms: "I am not master of the Duke of Savoy, nor can I apply pressure. His Envoy in France told my Ambassador, who repeatedly wrote to me, that all was at peace; then my Ambassador and others assured me that there is war. Then Gabaleone, who has recently arrived, brings letters of credence from the Duke, who adds that he desires peace, that he has given a promise in France that he will willingly abide by my decision. They speak in one way and act in another. What can one do? The moment I heard that war was going on I made suitable representations to the Ambassador (Villa) and to Gabaleone. It is now nine days that I caused a courier to be sent by the Ambassador to the Duke asking him to tell me clearly his mind and what he means to do. I have also written to France to enquire what language he uses there and to act in concert; all this to oblige the Republic, on whose account chiefly I have taken these steps." I replied that it would be impossible to review the situation with greater prudence, and for his action I returned thanks in your Excellencies' name. I pointed out that the continuance of the war must be to the Duke's disadvantage, as all Sovereigns desire peace. The King observed that I was quite right and that not even the Duke's Ministers approve; his own Ambassador refused at first to credit the report. I seem to gather three points from the King's remarks; first, displeasure that he had spoken to me on the strength of Jacob's assurances, which he believed; second, the conviction that the Duke is in the wrong to have taken up arms, and may easily find himself in difficulties; third, a readiness not only to use his good offices, but to go even further in the endeavour to reach an accord, and this to gratify your Excellencies. I concluded by saying that as he had secured peace between Denmark and Sweden, and removed the roots of discord between Denmark and Holland it was only natural that he should also bring about quiet in the dissensions caused by Savoy. The King was pleased, and said that in five or six days the courier would be back, and that then he would tell me the fruit of his action and the intentions of the Duke; for the present he could say nothing more positively. I made a humble reverence and took my leave. The French Ambassador tells me that the Pope has proposed that the captured places should be deposited in his hands along with the revenues of Monferrat to pay the garrisons and other expenses. This would be a mere spoliation of Mantua, who has written to the Queen of France that he is resolved not to compromise his position. I am told that your Excellencies' Ambassador in France has communicated your resolution, and that a meeting of Princes, Marshals

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and Governors has decided to raise six new regiments and to strengthen the old ones; in three weeks they will march. The Ambassador showed the passage in a letter, said to be from Villeroy, in which these words occur "If the Duke of Savoy puts us to this expense he'll have to pay for it."

London, 11th June, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

June 12. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

853. CHRISTOPHER VALIER, Venetian Ambassador in Constantinople, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Encloses the terms of the Capitulations between the Turks and the Dutch.

Dalle Vigne di Pera, 12th June, 1613.

[*Italian; deciphered.*]

June 12. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

854. ZORZI GIUSTINIAN, Venetian Ambassador in France, to the DOGE and SENATE.

There has appeared here the copy of a declaration made at Geneva and Bern by the English Secretary resident at Turin. In it he assured those people, in his Master's name, that the arms of the Duke of Savoy would not be employed against them, and he begged them on their side to pass their word not to move against the Duke. The Secretary's language shows that he is interested in and participates in the movement of the Duke. That has caused a great scandal, as it is absolutely contrary to the declarations of the English Ambassador here, that his Majesty was displeased with the Duke's action. The Ambassador at once forwarded the manifesto to the King, and it seems that the Secretary, seduced by rewards and fair promises, has exceeded his duty and acted without orders. This may bring about his ruin.

The English Ambassador has at last settled the old difficulty about the debt to the English Crown. It amounts to a million, and was at first made payable by the United Provinces. It was subsequently reduced by the King of England to gratify the States. The Queen wished it to be stated that this reduction was effected through her, while the King, on the other hand, insists that the thanks are due solely to him. Now that this difficulty has been removed, they will proceed at once to the question of marriage.

The Duke of Lennox will stop here on his way back from Heidelberg; he has the necessary powers. The Duke will ask for himself the command of the Scottish Guard. The Duke of York held the post, but now that he is Prince it no longer becomes him. His request will be granted, both on account of the match and for his own position, be being already lieutenant.

Paris, 12th June, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

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1613.
June 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives

855. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

On the 28th the Commissioners of Lübeck swore the treaty with the Dutch, on behalf of the Hanseatic towns, and left the next day. The confederation between the Dutch and the Princes of the Union has been drawn upon those strict terms which the King desired and the Palatine put forward, but with the proviso that it shall never be prejudicial to the Empire, France or England, with whom the Dutch have relations.

The Princess, accompanied by Prince Maurice, has continued her journey towards the frontiers of the States. Maurice will attend her to Düsseldorf. The Elector has arrived in his States. The Dutch have news that their fleet in the East Indies is making progress and they are fitting out fresh forces in Amsterdam. Thus though at peace with Spain in Europe they are at open war with her in the Indies.

Three days ago the Savoyard Ministers had letters from the Duke, via France, and yesterday Gabaleone had an interview of three quarters of an hour with Rochester. One, who was in the Chamber, told me that the Viscount was but little pleased with what Gabaleone said and gave a very curt reply. Gabaleone is staying on here as Lieger with suite and carriages. He asks whether in the course of his negotiations he is to address himself to the King, and, if so, is he to seek audience.

The Queen is expected at Hampton Court on Wednesday, and there the Savoy Ambassador (Villa) will kiss hands, present the Duke's gifts and take his leave; he is anxious to return, as here he is doing little. Affairs are entrusted to Gabaleone, who is a very able, successful minister. Thanks to the presents he has brought for various personages and those formerly given, he has friends. Here they talk much of war in Italy, nor are there wanting those who say they intend to go there.

London, 14th June, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

June 14.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

856. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Acknowledges receipt of despatches of 23rd and 25th May: informing him of the recall of *the Venetian Ambassador from Turin, after certain improper expressions used by the Duke; also that the Duke is said to intend to purchase twenty-five ships in England, to be employed in the Adriatic to the damage of Venice; and instructions to beg his Majesty to prevent pirates from taking service with Savoy. "I at once sought audience, and as soon as possible I will carry out your orders.*

"Sir Henry Wotton, who visited me a short time ago, told me that the letters which recently reached the Savoyard Ministers brought news that the Prince of Piedmont has gone to Spain. The Prince of Ascoli, on orders from the Governor of Milan, has pushed on to Nizza della Paglia, with Italian and Spanish troops. His Highness respected the Royal Ensigns. The Envoy at once sought audience

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to report all to the King. As to the journey of the Prince of Piedmont he says the Duke may have some other business with the King of Spain. He assured me all would end quietly; the Cardinal Duke will wed his sister-in-law, and the King of Spain is actually in secret treaty for the Infanta Catherine.

"The French Ambassador told me that the Queen has taken steps so that neither Spain nor Savoy shall be able to raise levies in Switzerland."

London, 14th June, 1613.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

June 18. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

857. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Yesterday at two p.m. the King gave me audience at Greenwich. I said "Sire, *the Duke of Savoy, in the course of some remarks, announced that he intended to procure twenty-five ships in England, and with them and his own galleys to proceed to ravage the Adriatic. The Republic has no doubt of the Duke's intent, nor yet of your Majesty's good will. It now begs that you should issue orders preventing pirates, with whom these kingdoms swarm, from taking service with Savoy." At the first words the King looked annoyed and seemed to be hearing something quite unexpected. He was about to speak when I forestalled him in the gentlest manner possible, assuring him that there was no lack of confidence on the part of your Excellencies, who were quite convinced of his benevolence. The only request was for rigorous orders that neither men nor ships should be taken from England without his knowledge. The King replied that the Duke may have said it, but he could not put it into effect nor did he dream of doing so. His Majesty assured me that the Duke had never said a word to him on the matter, not even about raising a single man; nay, he talks of nothing but peace and implores intervention. He went on to say "I will now tell you, as I promised, what my Ambassador informs me is the intention of the Duke. If the Duke wished to make the attempt of which you tell me, he would not speak to me of peace. He has put out all his power, now that he sees against him all the Princes of Italy, except the Pope who is neutral; so too France and Spain, at least in appearance. He used the words you report with a view to his own safety." I said that the order your Excellencies begged for was precisely to meet this point. The King said that in England it was impossible for anyone to raise a single man without his knowledge. The Duke had spoken to no one about it; "No one will raise men nor hire vessels here; that I can promise you."* As I insisted, the King stopped pacing about and said "*The French Ambassador told me three days ago, that now he knew that Spain had stabbed his Mistress and thrown itself on the side of Savoy. If Savoy has begun and carried on the war by himself he must be mad. I can't believe it." I gather three points from* the King's remarks; he remains devoted to your Excellencies; he is of opinion that the Duke acted rashly and by himself; and that having done all he could with his forces he is now trying to strengthen his position in every way. *On my taking my leave the King said "Rest assured of me; not a man will*

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leave the kingdom nor a single ship my ports without its being known to me. I shall redouble my vigilance, and I will do the same in the efforts I make with the Duke and others in the interests of peace."

London, 18th June, 1613.

[*Italian; the part in italics deciphered.*]

June 19. Consiglio de' Dieci, Parti Secrete. Venetian Archives.

858. That the imprisonment of Paolo Emilio Fumanelli be commuted into relegation to Palma.*

Ayes	8.	Ayes	8.	
Noes	0.	Noes	0.	Not carried.
Neutrals	1.	Neutrals	1.	

[*Italian.*]

June 20. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

859. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

Savoy is certainly endeavouring to induce the King to intervene, and in concert with the Queen of France to bring all to a peaceful termination. My representations to his Majesty have opened the way for the Ambassador of Savoy, who, while waiting a reply, does all he can to gain those who are in the King's good graces. He has declared that all the goods plundered from English ships by the English pirate (Eston), who is now in Turin, are under safe custody and will be restored to their owners. ("*Ha dichiarato che le merci depredate a sudditi della Maestà sua dal corsaro Inglese che si trova in Turino, son custodite e si restituirano prontamente a padroni.*") As to a matrimonial alliance they offer the King *carte blanche*. They do not however make much way.

Orders have been issued that no one may leave the country without announcing his departure, nor may persons of importance go abroad without permission. The King told me that he had heard from his Ambassador in Holland touching the reported treaty to assist the Turk against Christians. Barneveldt has shown surprise and resentment and absolutely denied its existence. He had begged the Ambassador not to allude to it in the Assembly, for the merest suspicion that the King of England entertained a shadow of a doubt on such an impious charge would be enough to damage the good name of that government. He told me he had heard from the French Ambassador that the Turk and the Persian were going to war again.

News of disturbances in Ireland has arrived. Parliament is still sitting there. Foot and horse have been raised in the counties and among the nobles. Spain, however, shows every intention of keeping quiet. The Dutch constantly send fresh forces to the East Indies, which greatly disturbs the Spanish, for they recognise that the origin of their greatness was due to the Indies and they may prove the source of their disaster. The Commissioners who were

* This motion had been proposed and failed on the 18th March, 1613.

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to go to Holland to arrange for a conjunction of forces have not left yet. I have news from the Hague that if such a conjunction takes place they propose to move in the West Indies as well.

London, 20th June, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

June 20. Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

860. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The French Ambassador told me that in the audience he had three days ago of the King he mentioned the rumour that the English Secretary in Turin had gone with Count Ruffia to Geneva, that he had left Ruffia at the gates, and had been received by the Government, whom he urged to keep aloof from the quarrels of the two Dukes and to refuse transit. He induced them to consent by assuring them that the difficulties would soon be settled and that then the troops collected would be turned against them, and so their only safety lay in standing neutral, which is what the Duke wants. To all this the King had replied "I am amazed at this. That person is no Secretary of mine, but a certain individual left behind by Wotton without my orders. (*io mi marviglio di ciò; colui non è mio segretario ma un tale lasciato dal Vuton senza mio ordine.*) The King appeared annoyed that this person should have acted so. He asseverated that he knew nothing about it, and added that it might be some trick of the Duke's to gain prestige, just as he had engaged a few English pirates and talked of them as "the English troops." The Ambassador pointed out to me that the Duke's object was to prevent the passage of French troops. Geneva was under French protection and France paid the garrison. He remarked on the affront which the Duke had courted by sending his Ambassador to a small town like Geneva without first of all finding out whether he would be received or not. The English Secretary begged that if they could come to no agreement they should at least keep the negotiation and the presence of the Ambassador a secret.

London, 20th Geneva, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

June 21. Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

861. The English Ambassador came to the Cabinet and spoke as follows:—

The communication I am about to make in the name of my Master may perhaps appear inopportune, but I trust that a consideration of the distance and the slowness of the post may excuse all.

If during the later movement of the Turk my Master came to no open decision it was not for lack of goodwill, but because he desired to show it in deeds, not words. Although the Turk's movements showed his object to be quite other than the territory of this Republic, still my Master was quite ready to assist with all his forces and those of his friends and dependents. He has told me to say this before you expressly, and though it may now seem superfluous it may serve as an assurance of his continuous good will.

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I have just received letters from the Palatine, who is deeply sensible of your Serenity's kindness as regards his marriage. He will write himself.

The Doge returned thanks. "As your Lordship is here we may say that as regards your petition on behalf of Fumanelli for a change of prison to relegation to Palma, we all are disposed to assent, but the matter must come before the Council of Ten, and requires all seventeen votes."

The Ambassador again recommends Fumanelli on the ground of pity, and also that he may be of service. It is sometimes possible to dispense with the rigour of the law; he begs for this favour on behalf of two devoted servants, Fumanelli and himself. If the former should ever offend again the Ambassador will pay the penalty. The Doge promises to do what they can. The Ambassador returns thanks for the favour shown to the Scot whom he had recommended. He sees that he is not neglected, in spite of the fact that the Government is much occupied during these days. He hears that the quarrel between Mantua and Savoy has been settled. He would like to be assured of the truth, so that he may communicate it to his Master.

Seeing that his Serenity appeared embarrassed the Ambassador said "Most Serene Prince, pray pardon me. I see that I have over-stepped the bounds of duty;" but his Excellency Donato at once replied that the news pointed to the confirmation of peace. As far as at present advised they held this for true and his Excellency might safely write it. The Ambassador said that he was the first to inform the King of the rupture and would like to be the first to inform him of the peace.

[*Italian.*]

June 22. Consiglio de' Dieci. Parti Secrete, Venetian Archives

862. The motion of the 19th June for the commutation of the sentence on Fumanelli into relegation to Palma was again put.

		In the committee of nine.	
Ayes	16.	Ayes	9.
Noes	0.	Noes	0.
Neutrals	1.	Neutrals	0.

[*Italian.*]

June 25. Minutes of the Senate. Venetian Archives.

863. To the Ambassador in England.

We have received your despatch of May 30th, conveying to us the offer of the King to come to our aid, especially if attacked from Constantinople. His Majesty's Ambassador here has made a similar communication. We enclose our letter of thanks and a copy of our answer to the English Ambassador. You will seek audience and make a communication to his Majesty in that sense.

Ayes 156.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

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1613.
June 25.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

864. That the English Ambassador be invited to attend in the Cabinet to hear as follows: Thanks for the King's offer of assistance, especially against the Turk, and for his promise of help from his allies and confederates.

Ayes 156.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

June 25.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

865. To the King of Great Britain.

Thanks for his offers of help, especially against the Turk.

Ayes 156.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

June 25.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

866. To the Ambassador Priuli in Spain or to his Successor.

His Majesty the King of Great Britain, talking with our Ambassador Foscarini, said that in 1606 the King of Denmark had declared himself ready to come to our assistance, and would be so on every other occasion. Should a Danish Ambassador arrive in Spain you are to visit him, and to show that you are aware of this excellent disposition in his Master.

Ayes 156.
Noes 3.
Neutrals 4.

[*Italian.*]

June 26.
Collegio, Secreta. Esposizioni Principi. Venetian Archives.

867. This morning the thanks of the Senate for the King's offer of assistance was read to the English Ambassador.

The Ambassador returns thanks for the communication and also for the release of Fumanelli from prison. The King of England has not been content with promising his own support, he has also secured the support of others, his relations and confederates, among them of the King of Denmark. If the Republic pleases to acknowledge these offers that would be a satisfaction to his Master. He begs pardon if he has gone too far, but his duty as an Ambassador compels him.

[*Italian.*]

June 27.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

868. To the King of Denmark.

The King of Great Britain has frequently assured us of your Majesty's good will. Return thanks for this.

Ayes 174.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 8.

[*Italian.*]

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1613.
June 27.
Minutes of the Senate, Venetian Archives.

869. To the Ambassador in England.

Being informed by the English Ambassador that his Master would be pleased if we thanked the King of Denmark for his good disposition towards us, we have written to the King a letter; copy of which is enclosed. You will communicate this to his Majesty.

That the Cabinet be authorized to communicate to England news about Monferrat.

Ayes 174.
Noes 2.
Neutrals 8.
[*Italian.*]

June 28.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

870. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The same day that I sent my last the Ambassador Cornwallis' late Secretary,* who has been sent as Consul to the Spanish seaboard, arrived in London. He has made the journey in nine days and was at once, after seeing his Majesty, passed on to the Council, before whom he laid a statement that on his arrival in Spain he found another Englishman, appointed by the King of Spain, in possession of his office; and he was informed by those whose duty it was that the King of Spain would not have Protestants in his kingdom, and so he had appointed an English Catholic to the post.

The King was enraged at this, so too the Council. Four days after an express arrived from the Ambassador in Spain, containing soft phrases from the Duke of Lerma. The King at once wrote claiming the withdrawal of the other and the admission of this person whom he had appointed.

The Spanish Ambassador has been insulted by the people, who made a riot about his carriage; his grooms were thrashed and two of them carried off to prison, but immediately released on the complaint of the Ambassador to the King, but without any apology. Later on fire was flung into his house.

The Council has decided against him in the case of two Spanish ships plundered by the French outside the line; they have been adjudged lawful prize, although the Ambassadors both by word of mouth and in writing interested themselves in the matter on the Spanish side.

The Deputies from the Irish Parliament, two noble peers, two knights and two lawyers, have kissed the King's hand and presented their petition. The main point is that the Irish no long time ago, were, in part, all but savages, and in the reign of Elizabeth they obeyed none but their own chiefs. After the accession of the King, gradually they are growing obedient to the law. This does not please some of their great ones, though all obey. The Deputies are already satisfied, for such is the benignity of the King that whoever speaks to him is sure to be graciously received and to go away quite content.

London, 28th June, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

* Francis Cottington.

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1613.
June 28.
Original Despatch, Venetian Archives.

871. Antonio Foscarini, Venetian Ambassador in England, to the Doge and Senate.

The Ambassador of France has just informed me that the Duke of Savoy with twelve thousand foot and sixteen cannon is besieging and bombarding San Damiano. The Governor of Milan reports to the Queen of France that he has received orders to assist Mantua if Savoy will not listen to reason. He has sent to tell the Duke to retire from San Damiano, otherwise he will invest Vercelli. The Ambassador himself told me that one should not give too much credence to these words and promises; he suspects that the Spanish wish to delay until France has attacked Savoy and then to declare themselves.

There are very recent despatches from the English Ambassador in Spain, saying that the Secretary Varghas has gone to Italy with orders for the Governor of Milan of the same nature as those which the Governor reported to her Most Christian Majesty.

Several persons of quality intended to take service with the Duke of Savoy both with men and with ships, but on its becoming known that I had made representations to his Majesty and on the issue of the orders in conformity with the King's word no one thinks any more of doing so, some of them even deny that such was their intention, and some hold their tongues. It is quite certain that the Envoys of Savoy have not asked the King for help, nor yet for leave to raise ships; the Earl of Northampton swore this to me. He added that their negotiations for a match are meeting opposition and are at a stand. It has done the Duke harm that he is suspected of Spanish leanings and that he is hostile to the Most Serene Republic; the Earl did not conceal this from me. The readiness of the King in all that concerns your Excellencies' convenience or pleasure could not be greater, nor the orders he has issued more efficacious.

London, 28th June, 1613.

[*Italian.*]

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APPENDIX.

1610.
Jan. 10.
Capitano della Guardia di Candia.
Venetian Archives.

872. Copy of the trial of the prisoners taken in the ship seized by His Illustrious Lordship Civran, Captain of the Guard of Candia, on the 3rd of January, 1610.

LAUS DEO.

1610, 3rd of January, new style; at sea off the Island of Melos.

This day at dawn Antonio Civran, Captain of the Guard of Candia, in his galley accompanied by Commanders Contarini and Gabriel, his consorts, was sailing towards Garabuse. Off Cape Spada, two sail were sighted far out at sea; they looked like men-of-war. The Captain made for them to search them. They were steering a westerly course, but on sighting the galleys they put about and made for the Archipelago. They were overhauled about three o'clock, and the usual signals were run up, when the larger of the two and the nearer replied by a shot from a loaded cannon and ran up the sign of battle; she kept on all her sail and bore away on her route. Thereupon the Captain gave orders to his commanders to clear for action. They followed up with sail and oar, firing all the time, up to the first hour of night, and then, by the grace of God, under the Island of Melos, she was taken. On board her as far as we know at present there were found only eight men alive, all the rest were killed by the artillery and musketry or had thrown themselves into the water. These eight men by the Captain's orders were chained and kept under close guard.

Same date.

Vicenzo Burchier, gaoler of the galley-slaves, reports having placed in chains the eight men who were found alive in the said ship, and that he has them in close custody.

Same date.

I, the Chancellor, received orders from the Illustrious Commander to diligently examine the said eight men.

Same date.

In execution of above orders, a young man of about twenty-two was brought to the cabin (*Piciol*)* of the Commander. He is of the average height; his brown beard is just growing. He said "My name is Amat of Barbary: I do not know who my father was. I, along with thirty Turks and fifteen English and French, was put by

* Piciol = Pizzuolo = the last cabin at the stern of a ship. *See* Greglielmotti, "Vocabolario Marino e Militare," *s.v.*

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force on board this ship which has been captured this evening. This ship was taken by us last Sunday week off Melos. This ship is supposed to hail from the Black Sea, as the cargo consisted of wool, hides and preserved meat. We found not a soul on board her, for at our appearance they all fled ashore. We were alone when we made our prize. Our captain is named Sanson, an Englishman; he was in command of the ship, while one Mehmet Reis was in command of the soldiery. We have made two other prizes, one was a ship hailing from Tripoli with a cargo of spices and other goods, and one was a French *saetta* with a cargo of wine, hailing from Candia. The first was captured about a month ago off a great island whose name I don't know, but it is not far from here; the Frenchman we captured a few days earlier, off a little isle about a hundred miles away from the big island; I believe the little isle is called Cerigo. The ship hailing from Tripoli was a French *berton* bound for France. We were three *bertons* all in company, all fitted out in Tunis. When we sighted the Frenchman, we gave chase, and after fighting a good while we took her. She had a large crew, but I can't say how many, though I should think little short of fifty, all French. We took the men and distributed them among us, while twenty-five of ours were put on board her to take her to Barbary. The French *saetta* we captured without a fight, as all three of us bore down on her together. On board her there were not twenty men all told; there were two women. The crew told us they were bound for Venice. This ship too we sent to Barbary with a crew of five and twenty of us; her own crew was likewise divided among our ships. Of the other *bertons* one fled under shelter of the island for which we were making, that was Captain Sanson's ship; the other two parted company in a storm twenty days ago. Among all three the *bertons* had a crew of five hundred men; most of them Turks, but some French and English. Captain Sanson had two hundred men on his, but he has only a hundred now, as the rest have been sent back with the prizes; he had twelve good guns on board besides two he put on board us. His object was to use her as a consort in making other prizes, and also for mutual defence should he fall in with the great galleys. Sanson has been out buccaneering before. He is a man of medium height, dark, with a slight black beard; he is about thirty. On the other hand this is the first time Mehmet Reis has been out with a *berton*, though he has been out before in a galliot. The commanders of the other two *bertons* are Ali Reis Murad of Barbary, and Captain Schiavo (?Shaw) an Englishman. Three other *bertons* put out from Tunis, but sailed away for Cyprus and Syria. They were better manned than ours, they are bigger vessels and better armed. One is commanded by Otman Reis, of Barbary, that is the biggest and best armed of all, she has about three hundred harquebussiers on board, all from Barbary. Another is commanded by Ali Reis of Biserta, and the third by Captain Ward, an old English pirate; both these are well armed with good hands and better guns. When first we sighted the galleys we thought they were the great galleys, but when we saw them get out oars we took them for pirate galliots; then when we heard the trumpets and

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drums we thought they were Christian galleys, but never believed they were Venetian as they fell away to leeward, though at last the constant firing from their bow chasers told us that they could not be anything else. Sanson fled, although he had armed this ship with intent to engage the great galleys if he fell in with them." He was then addressed thus: "You were on board to pillage and plunder in Venetian waters; justice will proceed to mete out condign punishment." He exclaimed "Mercy." Asked who the other prisoners were he said one was a Spanish renegade, one a blackamoor and two others Frenchmen who had been made slaves in the ship that was captured on its way from Tripoli.

Same date.

Examination in the Captain's cabin of a man of medium height, small beard, dark skin, wounded in one leg. He spoke a mixture of Spanish, Turkish and Italian. Called Francesco de Salto, son of the late Diego. Declared he was a Christian. Told to expose his person he was seen to be circumcised. Said he had taken service as a soldier on board the *berton* of Captain Sanson. Asked who was this Sanson he replied that he was the pirate who had captured this ship. "You are out buccaneering then?" "I am out to try my luck." Has been with Sanson two months and a half. Sanson fitted in Tunis and sailed thence. Six *bertons* sailed in company; three made for Tripoli, Syria and Cyprus, and three for these waters. We captured three ships, one Frenchman bound for Tripoli, one with a cargo of wine, hailing from Constantinople, and this ship. This ship Sanson captured alone, the other two he captured in company. The Frenchman was a *berton*, bound for Brittany with a cargo of cotton and spices. The ship with the cargo of wine was a French *saetta*, bound for Venice. These prizes were sent to Barbary. The *berton* was captured off Candia, and the *saetta* off Cerigo. The *saetta* had a crew of fifteen with two women, the *berton* upwards of forty. The *berton* was captured after two hours' brave resistance, the *saetta* surrendered without a fight. The crews were divided among the buccaneers. The prizes were sent into Barbary with fifty of Sanson's men. Sanson's was the best manned ship. He had upwards of two hundred men. The other two numbered three hundred men between them. The commanders were Sanson with Mehmet Reis, Captain Schiavo (? Shaw), an Englishman, and Ali Reis Murat of Barbary, Ali Reis and Captain Ward, an old English pirate, well found in men and guns. The ship we are in we picked up derelict last Sunday week, nine days ago, off Melos. By its cargo we thought it came from the Black Sea and was bound for Venice. At Melos we sold some goods. Sanson fitted it up with men and guns to sail in consort. When we fell in with the galleys we took them for the great galleys, but on seeing them out-oars, we thought they were buccaneers, for Captain Petro, an Englishman, in command of the ship, said that Venetians were wont to fire at long range and not to attack so boldly; we knew they were Christian galleys by the sound of the trumpets and drums. Sanson fled for fear, and tried to run ashore, and we don't know what has happened

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to him. Of the rest of our men twenty jumped into the sea and the rest were killed, partly by the artillery with slugs (*con quelle scaglie*) and partly by musketry. As the men fell they were thrown overboard so as not to terrify the rest. I stayed on board, as I was wounded in the leg. My other companions found alive are a Turk, a blackamoor, and two Frenchmen. He was told that justice would be done on him, and he cried "Pity on poor me."

Same date.

Examination of a blackamoor, of medium height, early beard, about twenty years of age. Speaking Moorish, he said his name was Musa of Barbary. His master put him on board Sanson's ship. He confirms previous witness. The English pirates were mostly with Captain Sanson. Captain Petro wished to surrender to the galleys, but Hasan Reis in command of the soldiers would not, for he knew they were Venetian galleys by the fire of their bow guns, and surrender meant death, not slavery, as Petro said. Among the prisoners the three half dead were an Englishman and two Frenchmen.

Same date.

Examination of a big man, with brown beard, apparently about forty years of age. Spoke French. Said his name was Isaac Bigin. Said he was captured off Candia about the seventh of last month, by three *bertons*. He was bound for Brittany. Asked if that was his right course, he explained that they had put into Cyprus to make purchases. Confirms preceding expositions.

Same date.

Examination of a man of moderate height; red complexion; apparently about forty. Said his name was Jacomai, of San Malo (*Semalo*). Confirms the preceding witness, in whose company he was captured by the pirates. The Frenchman was called the "Le Leon d'Or."

4th of same month at sea.

The other three prisoners are wounded to death, one Englishman and two Frenchmen. They cannot utter an intelligible word. The commander ordered that they need not be examined.

6th of the said month.

Two stow-aways found in the ballast.

Same date.

Orders that these two be put in chains and examined.

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Same date.

Examination of a man of medium height, black close shaved beard, large moustache. Says he is a Turk, called Monsur or Zibel. Says he was forced on board. Declares they took no other prizes than this ship. Is told not to tell lies. Condemned.

Same date.

Examination of a blackamoor of about twenty. Speaking Moorish he said his name was Mehmet. Was put by force on board the buccaneer. Confirms previous depositions. Condemned.

Same date.

The Commander ordered the prisoners to prepare their defence within three days; the three moribund prisoners were at once decapitated as being patently pirates.

[*Italian.*]

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